

# THE NOR-WEST FARMER.

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WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, FEBRUARY 5, 1900.

\$1 a Year,  
in advance.

## PROMINENT BREEDERS OF PURE-BRED STOCK IN WESTERN CANADA

WHO THEY ARE, WHERE THEY LIVE,  
AND WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE.

### H. R. Keyes.

H. R. Keyes, Midway, Man., was born in Caledonia, Ont., and is an example of the pushing young Canadian that is bound



to get on. He is still a very young man, though he has been farming and doing business with farmers for 10 years. He is quite a poultry man and like many another breeder his first knowledge of pure bred stock was gained with poultry, of which he still keeps good

specimens of the leading varieties and of which he has frequently imported birds from Ontario and the United States. He has added Jersey and Hereford cattle and Yorkshire and Berkshire swine. The Jerseys were obtained from Jas. Bray, Longburn, and the Berkshires from Wm. Kitson, Burnside, R. McKenzie, High Bluff, and others, some of them imported animals. Mr. Keyes has been actively engaged in business in Midway, but has now rented his hardware store and intends devoting more time to stock. So far he has been only able to supply local demand, but has much larger schemes in view. He has good stabling for 80 head of stock and hopes to build up his Hereford herd.

### Joseph Callin.

Joseph Callin, Whitewood, Assa., is another of our western farmers who is

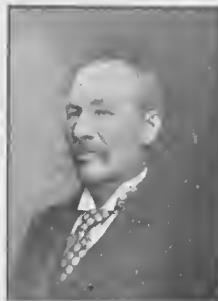


making a beginning with pure bred stock. He has been farming here for 17 years and has been pretty successful the last three years as a breeder and exhibitor of Shorthorns and Tamworths. He was raised on the farm and has handled stock all his life. He began

with Shorthorns on a very small scale, but the bulk of his stock, 60 head in all, are well graded Shorthorns. These he winters in Moose Mountain. He has had prizes on his pure bred stock at Winnipeg and Regina, but his mainstay is his well graded stock. He has good housing for 30 head of cattle and a few good Tamworth pigs.

### Wm. Chalmers.

William Chalmers, Hayfield, has been a familiar figure at Winnipeg Industrial as well as at the Brandon, Souris and Wawanesa shows. He has been breeding Shorthorns for the past nine years, but has had a lifetime's experience with cattle, first in his native county of Wellington, Ont., and since then on his present farm. His foundation stock consisted of six head, purchased from J. Faulkner, Alma, J. Doyle, Elora, and J. Thompson, Salem, Ont. Since then he purchased in all three bulls and four heifers. He has now 29 head of registered Shorthorns and a few good pigs. As housing he has a capital basement barn, 64x44 ft., supplied with water, all through in front of his stock. The water supply is abundant and Mr. Chalmers is one of the men who will be heard from pretty frequently if industry and care will do it.



### Ernest F. W. Hysop.

Ernest F. W. Hysop, who farms a short way east of Killarney, handles Shorthorn cattle, Cotswold sheep, and a few Berkshire pigs. The family left Toronto in 1882 and he has grown up a Manitoba farmer, picking up all the knowledge he could gather from experience, observation and the study of good farming literature, including The Nor-West



Farmer. A lot of good grade stock has always been kept and a very good beginning made with pure breeds. A start was made with a bull and four females from J. E. Smith, Brandon, and other purchases from Lawrence & Son, J. G. Washington, and others within the province. Two prize winning females from W. D. Platt, Hamilton, have recently been added to the herd. The foundation stock of sheep has also been carefully selected, including a couple of imported English ewes. Only local shows have been attended so far, but with very satisfactory results. At Killarney the stock from this farm took more prizes than all the rest of the com-

petitors in cattle and sheep. The foundation lot of sheep took prizes in 1896 from Toronto to Regina. A considerable number of good grade stock is always kept. A stone stable, 70x34, of best modern construction, along with the older log buildings, furnish excellent accommodation for stock. Mr. Hysop took two terms at the Winnipeg Business College in 1896 and 1897, and has since made it his business to keep in line with the best men of the district. He prides himself a good deal on his sheep, which are either imported or straight bred from imported stock, and thinks them the best of their breed in Western Canada. A ram bred by him had 1st at Winnipeg last year. He also owns the dam of the ewe 1st and diploma at Winnipeg, 1898, 1899, and illustrated in The Nor-West Farmer, Oct. 20, 1899.

### John S. Robson.

John S. Robson, Manitou, Man., has a farm on the Pembina River admirably adapted to stock breeding. Mr. Robson early recognized the advantages of his position and has been breeding pure bred stock for seventeen years, although he has been in the country only eighteen years. He was born in the county of Pecl and farmed there and in Simcoe county prior to coming west. His first venture in pure bred stock consisted of four females and from this start his herd has gradually increased until he now has about 130 head, of which 50 are breeding cows. Other purchases than his foundation stock have been made, both from local herds and from leading breeders in Ontario. Two females came from R. D. Foley, Manitou, and bulls from John McDonald, W. Lynch, W. S. Lister, J. I. Davidson, Jas. Gibb, and Hon. T. Greenway. In all three cows and two bulls have been got from Ontario. Mr. Robson has been particular to keep nothing but bulls of the best breeding at head of his herd, and among those that have stood there we may mention Thorn-dale Duke, Duke of Manitou, Marchmont



Earls, Village Boy, Bismarck and the latest addition is Royal Judge—29260—, a son of Judge, the stock bull of the Prairie Home Stock Farm and well known as the sweepstakes winner at Winnipeg in 1898. Royal Judge was first as a calf at Winnipeg last year, and the previous year Mr. Robson won second with a calf of his own raising in keen competition. Other than these two animals Mr. Robson has not fitted for the large shows, but at the local shows he has been very successful. Mr. Robson has made numerous sales to his neighbors and to all parts of the west and his stock has always given general satisfaction. Besides Shorthorn cattle Mr. Robson has made a good beginning with Berkshire swine and has done something with Clydesdale horses. His accommodation for stock is not as good as he would like it, being frame buildings, but these he will, no doubt, improve in the near future.



### Manitoba Conventions.

Feb. 20.—Manitoba Dairy Association.  
Feb. 21.—Sheep and Swine Breeders' Association.

Feb. 22.—Pure-Bred Cattle Breeders' Association.

Feb. 23.—Manitoba Horticultural Society.

Feb. 23.—Manitoba Horse Breeders' Association.

Feb. 19-23.—Exhibition of the Manitoba Poultry Association, and convention during the week.

Hundreds of farmers could not spend convention week to better advantage or more profitably so far as their work is concerned than by attending these meetings. It will cost money, of course, but it will be money well invested, for no intelligent man can attend these meetings, mix with other progressive breeders and farmers and listen to the addresses and discussions without gaining valuable information. What is more to the point, he will go home filled with enthusiasm to take up his work with fresh energy. \$10 or even \$15, or \$25 invested in fresh energy and enthusiasm will be the best investment of money of the year. Try it.

### Cavalry Remount and Training Station.

Some years ago British Army officers went through Canada looking for suitable re-mounts for the British Army and studying the advisability of establishing purchasing depots here. Nothing was done, however, but the report that Colonial horses are proving superior to the English horses in the war in South Africa for rapid movements, and the great demand for cavalry horses for army purposes, opens up this question again. The executive of the Manitoba Horse Breeders' Association has been quick to see the advantage just now of trying to get the Imperial Government to establish what was attempted a few years ago. At a special meeting of the executive committee of the Horse Breeders' Association, held in the city last week, the following motion was moved by R. I. M. Power, seconded by Dr. Thompson, and carried unanimously:

"That owing to the rapid development of the horse breeding industry in Western Canada and the suitability of a large proportion of the horses bred in the west for cavalry purposes, we should take steps to impress upon the Imperial authorities the advisability of establishing a remount purchasing depot at Calgary or Regina and a branch depot at Winnipeg. Horses could be thoroughly broken and trained at these points and shipped at short notice to any part of the world where they might be required. The British Isles are, without doubt, unable to furnish a sufficient number of horses suitable for army purposes, and as, in the event of a serious war, horses would certainly be declared contraband, it is of vital importance that an ample supply should be obtainable within the empire. The establishment of such depots would undoubtedly be of great advantage to the Canadian west by furnishing a profitable market for the immense numbers of horses which can there be raised more cheaply and successfully than in any other part of the world."

## BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

CARDS under this head inserted at the rate of \$1.50 per line per year. No card accepted under two lines, nor for less than six months.

**D. FRASER & SONS**, Emerson, Man. Breeders and importers of Shorthorns, Shropshire and Southdown Sheep. Pedigree Poland China Pigs a specialty, from the best strains in the United States.

**W. J. HELLIWELL**, Oak Lake, breeder of Short-horn Cattle, Shropshire Sheep, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Light Brahmas and Partridge Cochins. All kinds of above young stock for sale. Prices right.

**R. L. LANG**, Spruce Bank Farm, Oak Lake, Man., breeder and importer of Shorthorn Cattle, improved Berkshire Swine, White Wyandottes and White Leghorns. Young stock for sale. 2448

**WM. MCBRIDE**, importer and breeder of improved Chester White Pigs. Young stock for sale. Pairs and trios furnished not akin. Address—Wm. McBride, Box 253, Portage la Prairie, Man.

**JAMES GLENNIE**, Arden, Man. Importer and breeder of Holstein-Friesian Cattle. Bull Calves of the famous Teake strain for sale. Write for prices. Box 95.

**J. MOIR**, Glendinning, Man. P China Pigs, B. P. Rocks, L. Brahmas, S.L. Wyandottes, B. Turkeys, P. Ducks. Orders booked for pigs and eggs

**KENNETH MCLEOD**, Dugald, Manitoba. Chester White and Suffolk Pigs for sale. My stock are prize winners at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition.

**JAS. TOLTON**, Walkerton, Ont., importer and breeder of Shorthorn Cattle and Oxford Sheep. A number of exceptionally fine young bulls. Prices right.

**HENRY LAYCOCK**, Rosebank, Man., breeder of Shorthorn Cattle and P. China Swine. Young stock of both classes for sale. Prices satisfactory.

**F. W. GREEN**, Moosejaw, Assa. breeder and importer of high-class Shorthorns. Some fine young stock for sale, climetized to Western range.

**K. MCIVOR**, Roselea Farm, Virden, breeder of Shorthorn Cattle and introducer and grower of Western (or native) Rye Grass. Seed for sale.

**JOHN TURNER**, "Bonny Brae Farm," breeder of Polled Angus Cattle. Young stock of both sexes for sale. Address, John Turner, Carroll, Man.

**HY. BYERS**, Macgregor, Man., breeder of Jersey Cattle. Largest herd in the West, headed by Rover Pegis, No. 41020. Young stock for sale.

**JAS. ROBERTSON**, Beaver Brand Farm, Glendale P.O., Man. Poland China Pigs, Hereford Bull Calf; also Brome and Rye grass seed for sale.

**A. J. MORRISON**, "Carman, Man. Breeders of Shorthorn cattle. One 11 and one 24 months old bulls of exceptional quality for sale.

**W. C. EDWARDS & CO.**, North Nation Mills, P.O. Importers and Breeders of Ayrshire Cattle Shropshire Sheep and Berkshire Pigs. 1642r

**J. VAN VEEN**, breeder of Galloway and Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep, Lake View Ranch, File Hills, Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa. 1588

**BRAMPTON JERSEY HERD**. Full stock of A. J. C. Cows, Heifers and Bulls. Extra quality. B. H. Bull & Son, Brampton, Ont.

**W. C. EDWARDS & CO.**, Rockland, Ont., Importers and Breeders of Shorthorn Cattle, Shropshire Sheep and Berkshire Pigs. 1643r

**ROBT. WHITE**, Wakopa, Man., breeder of Shorthorns. Herd headed by "Crimson Chief" (24057) Young stock for sale.

**L. A. BRADLEY**, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, breeder of Tamworth Pigs. Young Pigs for sale.

**JAMES RODGERS**, Panima, Alta., breeder of Polled Angus Cattle. A few young bulls for sale.

**F. J. COLLYER**, Welwyn, Assa., breeder of Polled Angus and Berkshires. Young Pigs for sale.

**W. M. SMITH**, Fairfield Plains, Ont. Ayrshires, Southdowns, P. Chinas, Duroc Jerseys, Poultry.

**WM. CHALMERS**, Hayfield, Man., breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Correspondence solicited.

**GEO. ALLISON**, Burnbank, Man., breeder of Shorthorns and Leicesters. Stock for sale. 2481

**STEEL BROS.**, Glenboro, Manitoba. Breeders of Ayrshire Cattle. Young Stock for sale. 1731r

**JAMES STANCOMBE**, Cartwright, Man., breeder of Shorthorns. Three choice-bred Bulls for sale.

**THOS. MCCARTNEY**, Longburn, Man. Ayrshire Cattle. A splendid pair of young bulls for sale.

**ALEX. MCNAUGHTON**, Roland, Man., breeder of Shorthorns and Pol. Chinas. Young stock for sale

**JAS. GORRELL & SONS**, Pilot Mound, Man., Short Horn breeders. Fine young bulls. Prices right.

**THOS. H. WEBB**, Clearwater, Man. Breeder of Berkshire Swine. Correspondence solicited.

**W. E. BALDWIN**, Manitow, Man. Young Tsmo & Pigs of all ages for sale cheap from imp. stock

**WELLINGTON HARDY**, Pomeroy, Man. Ayrshires and improved Yorkshires. 3 bulls for sale.

**A. B. SMITH**, Moosomin, Assa. Breeder of Cotswolds, Southdowns; Berkshires, Chester Whites

**WALTER JAMES**, Rosser, Man. Breeder of choice Shorthorn Cattle and Berkshire Swine.

**JOSEPH TAYLOR**, Fairfax, Manitoba, breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Young stock for sale.

**JAMES WILSON**, Innisfail, Alta., breeder of Shorthorns. One hue Alberta-bred bull for sale.

**F. MURDOCH**, Bru, Man. Shorthorn Cattle. Yorkshire Swine and Shropshire Sheep.

**JOHN S. GIBSON**, Morden, Man. Shorthorns and Poland Chinas. Young stock for sale.

**W. C. MURDIN**, Plumas, Man., breeder of Ayrshire Cattle. Young bull for sale.

**J. H. KINNEAR**, Souris, Man., breeder of Short-horn Cattle. Young stock for sale.

**JAS. MURRAY**, Breeder of Border Leicester Sheep. Young Rams for sale. Lyleton, Man. 1627r

**GEO. RANKIN**, Hamiota, breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Stock always for sale. 2443

**R. WADE**, Birtle, Man. Breeder of Shorthorns. Young stock for sale.

**ALEX. WOOD**, Souris, Man., Breeder of Oxford Down Sheep.

**W. D. FLATT** HAMILTON, ONTARIO.

Importer and breeder of

### SHORTHORN CATTLE.



Golden Fame (imp. 28056) (72610).

My herd is one of the largest in America, both imported and Canadian bred. A very choice selection of both sexes always on hand for sale. Personal inspection invited. Address all communications:

**JAMES SMITH**, Manager, Millgrove, Ont.

Ry. Station and Telegraph, Hamilton, Ont., on main line Grand Trunk Ry.

### FOREST HOME FARM.



**6 YOUNG BULLS** by Manitoba Chief and Robie O'Day, and out of some of our best cows.

**9 BERKSHIRE SOWS**, of choice quality and breeding, from 5 months to 3 years.

The standard of our Yorkshire herd is steadily improving. Our stock boars (one winner of Sweepstakes at last Industrial, the other recently imported from England) are grand specimens of the breed. A choice lot of sows ready to breed. About 50 B.P. Rock cockerels, strong, healthy birds of great size and good marking. All at reasonable prices.

**ANDREW GRAHAM**,

Roland, N.P.R. Carman, C.P.R. Pomeroy P.O., Man.

**R. MCLENNAN**, Moropano P.O., Man.

Lakeside Stock Farm.



### SHORTHORN

COWS AND HEIFERS

of first-class breeding for sale, in calf to imported bull Sir Colin Campbell.

### HOPE FARM

ST. JEAN BAPTISTE, MAN.

Headquarters for GALLOWAY CATTLE.

Apply to **T. M. CAMPBELL**, Mgr.

## Farms and Stock

For sale at all times. Apply to

**H. R. KEYES**, Midway, Man.

It was decided to forward a copy of the above motion to General Hutton at Ottawa.

In the last issue of *The Farmer* it was pointed out that the horse industry was in anything but a flourishing condition in the west. The rapid development referred to by the Horse Breeders' Association may exist, we hope it does, and we sincerely hope that a very large proportion of the horses now for sale will be

upon the scheme to the War Office and that it will also be considered favorably there.

### The Horse for Manitoba.

As noted in our Jan. 5th issue, the Horse Breeders' Association of Neepawa lost its Standard bred stallion, Pliny, in an impromptu race. The association has

advanced move by limiting competition to the get of pure bred sires—now render a helping hand by getting sires of the best quality and suitable to the locality.

"What shall be got? Large active draft stallions, 2,000 pounds in weight, with good bone, muscle, feet and action, and some good Hackney, Yorkshire, Coach or Thoroughbred (some like Kilburn, for instance) stallions. The up-to-date farmer breeder will not fool with such an experiment as the breeding of the trotting horse. Its unsuitability for the farmer has been amply proved by others, both in Canada and the United States. Take the record of the big horse shows, and its the get of the Hackney and the Coach, in light horses, that earn the plaudits of the crowd, the shekels of the associations, and the prices of the market. The trotting horse lacks prepotency, due to being short bred. Look at the rules under which a horse may become Standard bred.

"It should never be forgotten that pedigree and conformation should go together. I know that there are a few fast horse lovers in Neepawa, but they know as well as I do, that there is no money in attempting to breed fast horses. Good draft horses and good coach and carriage horses can hardly be got at any price. I was on the horse market at Chicago for a few days and saw the weeds, the get of trotting stuff, practically given away—no real demand. They were a drug on the market, whereas the old country as well as the local buyers were hot after good drafters and topky, high acting coachers."



Three Coachers, seven weeks old, at Top Gallant Farm, property of E. L. Williamson, Regina, Assa.

suitable for remount purposes. It must not be forgotten, however, that the English standard of qualification is a high one and that no brands are admissible. The selection of horses now taking place for Lord Strathcona's Horse, by Chief Veterinarian McEachran, will soon bring out the truth in this matter and we will then know whether our Western horses are suitable. If not suitable it is well to know it, and also to know what conditions our horses will meet. Somewhat lighter, more active cavalry horses may be more suitable for rapid movements in war and, if the authorities find it difficult to get enough of the proper stamp, the rules may be modified to meet that class of our Western horses which long experience has shown to be suitable for heavy saddle work.

The establishment of a purchasing depot would have a decided beneficial effect on our Western market and in encouraging horse breeding. No more opportune time could be taken for presenting this matter to the War Office. Canada is responding nobly to the call for help from the mother country and in graceful acknowledgement of this help and as tending to foster a greater spirit of imperialism it would be the wise thing for the War Office to respond to this request. The Imperial authorities could go further with profit to themselves. They could purchase land and start a breeding farm, which they could stock with horses of the right stamp. Mares could also be placed with ranchers, the first colt to be the property of the government or on some such conditions. This breeding station could also be a training station where horses could be broken, trained and held ready for shipment when and wherever needed. The scheme has much to commend it and not the least important part of it is the fact that horses can undoubtedly be raised on the western ranches at less cost than anywhere else in the world. It is to be hoped that General Hutton will report favorably

just had a rather pithy letter from A. G. Hopkins, lately V.S. at Neepawa, and now of the Wisconsin Experiment Station. It is very wholesome reading for farmers of a sporting turn of mind. Mr. Hopkins says:—

"I notice in a recent issue of the Press an account of the Horse Breeders' Association of Beautiful Plains, in which they resolved to purchase another Standard bred horse. The association certainly has

### Color and Age in the War Horse.

Colonel Biddulph, in a newly issued history of the 19th Hussars, speaking of the Tel-el-Kebir campaign, says: "When the regiment went to Egypt it had four colored squadrons—chestnut, bay, brown and black—while the band were mounted on greys. Experience showed that the greys bore the climate better than any others; the chestnuts also bore the climate well. The dark-colored horses suffered most,



Shorthorn Cow, Miss Belladrum VI.

Calved 18th November, 1893, bred by Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle, Beaulieu. Property of Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury. First Prize, R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1899.

a right to purchase whatever kind of a horse they choose, yet if they desire the improvement of the horse stock of Beautiful Plains, they will not attain their object by the use of the trotting-bred horse. Marketable horses are what should be bred. Any resident in the country knows the large number of horses sold annually in Neepawa are not bred in Beautiful Plains, but imported. There is no reason why such a state of things should continue. The Agricultural Society made an

and were more liable than the others to sore backs. In respect to age, the percentage of deaths among horses between five and ten years was double that among horses from ten and fifteen years. In the hurry of departure from England, about twenty horses over fifteen years were taken. They were employed as wagon horses, and had, perhaps, harder work than those under the saddle, yet they stood the climate and work better than all the others."

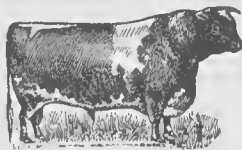
### Steer Feeding at Newdale.

As we have at different other times touched upon the experience and methods of Messrs. Cook & Harrison, of Newdale, it is unnecessary to introduce them to our readers as very successful feeders of stock. One of our staff took a run out to their place to see what they had in hand this winter, and Mr. Cook, the resident member of the firm, very kindly showed us around.

The farm is about three miles north-east of the town and takes in the south banks of the Little Saskatchewan. This year they are again feeding about the usual number of steers—about 200 head. One might explain in passing that Messrs. Cook & Harrison raise practically no calves, but buy their stock as yearlings, endeavoring to confine their purchases, whenever possible, to male stock exclusively. These are kept right along in good growing shape and are turned off as shippers about August 1st two years later. It is really a special work for a special market, as the aim is to turn them on to the market after the heavy output of stall-fed beefs have been run off, and before the ranche cattle have become ready for shipment. The cattle were being fed in the open along a series of rambling, wooded ravines which intersect the south bank of the river—certainly one of the most nearly ideal spots of all the spots for outdoor feeding which we have ever seen. Let the wind howl and whirl as it likes, there is still one side of those hills where everything is calm and serene, and there the steers will be found. Enough straw is always given them to provide for plenty of bedding. In providing fodder it is calculated to put up about 1½ tons of hay for each animal, and all the straw possible is obtained from a large number of neighboring farmers. Upon coming off the grass in the fall, the steers are put upon a liberal hay diet. In this way no backset is caused by the change from pasture and the added severity of the weather. Gradually a proportion of straw is introduced. Along from new year's to the middle of February (according to the severity of the weather and the condition of the steers), the animals rising three are separated and then fed grain, not heavily, but in such quantities as to cause them to gain right along. This is gradually increased until the grass and grain fed steer, ready for the old country markets, is reached about the end of July. Mixed grains are fed. Even if the grain was omitted from the winter diet, there is no doubt that a percentage of the steers would still make shippers, but the aim is to turn off the whole bunch, and this end is generally reached after the long period of steady feeding which they receive. Messrs. Cook & Harrison have a large barn with stone stables, which was erected for stall feeding, but their experience is that for their line of feeding, and, possessing as they do such a splendid feeding ground, the cattle winter as well out of doors and go on to the grass in harder shape in the spring than when stable fed. Of course they would not think of attempting to run them in the open on level land, nor yet to run the females and young stock of the ordinary farmer out at all. All steers are branded and dehorned, and in purchasing a considerable premium is put upon thrift and good breeding. The other kind don't pay.

A Scottish breeder of pedigreed Polled Angus reports a bull calf 361 days old that weighed 1,085 lbs. For longevity this breed is well known. A cow 18 years past suckled a good calf last year.

### Marchmont Stock Farm.



### SCOTCH - BRED SHORTHORNS

I have now on hand for sale the 4-year-old bull Crown Jewel 16th (the heaviest and thickest bull ever shown at Winnipeg), 8 yearlings—one Ontario bred, and 17 bull calves, one imported in dam.

At moderate prices. Also **BERKSHIRE PIGS.**  
TELEPHONE 1004B.

**W. S. LISTER, Middlechurch P. O.,**  
(7 miles North of Winnipeg.)

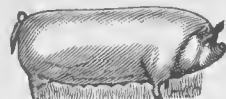
### HOLSTEINS & YORKSHIRES

One year old bull, one calf; a litter of 11 pigs, 2 months, both sex.

**A. B. POTTER, Montgomery, Assa.**

### OAK GROVE FARM.

**SHORTHORN  
CATTLE and  
LARGE, IMPROVED  
YORKSHIRE  
SWINE**



Among the Shorthorns recently imported from Ontario, I have for sale a few very fine heifers, and the 8 months old bull Sharkey (dark red); also a fine bunch of sows with pig, and a few choice boars fit for service.

Orders booked now for Young Pigs.

**JAS. BRAY, Longburn, Man.**



**PLAIN  
VIEW  
STOCK  
FARM.**



The home of Shorthorns, Cotswolds and Berkshires. The most successful herd of Berkshires in the Dominion in the leading fairs during the last 4 years. My Berkshires consist of 4 of the best Boars and 16 of the best breeding Sows I ever had, all prize winners. Bulls, Boars, Sows, Ram Lambs and Barred Rocks for sale at reasonable prices. Booking orders for spring stock. My herds are not large, but choice. Come and see them, or write for prices.

**F. W. BROWN, Prop., Portage la Prairie.**

### PIONEER HERD OF SHORTHORNS



I have been breeding Shorthorn Cattle right here for over a quarter of a century. I breed my own Show Cattle, and last year had at the Winnipeg Industrial Gold Medal Herd. First for Bull and two of his get, and first for Cow and two of her progeny. I usually have stuff for sale, and am always pleased to show it.

**WALTER LYNCH, Westbourne, Man.**

### Prairie Home Stock Farm,

**CRYSTAL CITY, MAN.**



**Shorthorn and Ayrshire Cattle  
Shropshire Sheep  
Yorkshire and Berkshire Swine.**

Address all communications to **JAS. YULE, Mgr.**

2280

**THOS. GREENWAY, PROP.**

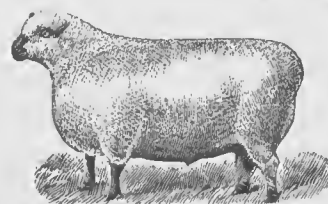
### J. A. S. MACMILLAN

IMPORTER OF

**Clydesdale, Shire and Hackney  
STALLIONS,**

Has a few choice ones for sale; also

**Pure Bred Shropshire Sheep.**



Rams and ewes from the most fashionable imported blood. Inspection invited. For full particulars apply—

2236

**Box 483, BRANDON, MAN.**

### Elmwood Stock Farm

**SCOTCH SHORTHORNS.**

For sale, 3 grand young bulls, all got by imported sires, and out of extra good cows by imported bulls.

**H. O. YEAST, MIDDLECHURCH, MAN.**



### Choice Young Bulls for Sale!



Sired by **TOPSMAN**, the champion Shorthorn Bull at Winnipeg and Toronto in 1899, and **STANLEY 6th**.

Anyone wishing to obtain a bull possessing individual merit and of high breeding can make no mistake in writing

**J. G. BARRON, Carberry, Man.**

**K. McIVOR,**

Breeder of **Roselea Farm, Virden, Man.**

### SHORTHORN CATTLE

I have six fine young bulls; also my stock bull, winner of 10 first prizes at 11 shows, two of which were at Winnipeg. Is sure and active. Am only selling because I cannot longer use him in my herd.

### CHOICE YOUNG Shorthorns

I offer 8 choice young Bulls, sired by prize-winning sires; also a few Heifers, 1 and 2 years old.

For particulars, write—

**WM. CHALMERS, Hayfield, Man.**

### Ridgewood Stock Farm, Souris, Man.

**WM. SHARMAN**

BREEDER OF

### High Class Herefords

A few early Bull Calves for sale.

### F. TORRANCE, VETERINARY SURGEON

Graduate of McGill University. Diseases of animals treated scientifically. Surgical and dental operations a specialty.

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### Starting Right.

In our correspondence column, page 28, of the Jan. 5th, 1900, issue, will be found an article on "The Best Bull for the Rancho," which contains a thought or two The Farmer wishes to emphasize. Owing to the very prosperous year that has just closed, to the general desire of ranchmen to stock up, and of new men to start for themselves, the question of making the right start is one which might well be discussed in our columns. The point our correspondent raises about the buyers buying by quantity rather than by quality is the one which will soon find its own cure. It will not be many years before buyers will discriminate and choice animals will bring a much higher figure than the big rough carcasses. Competition is becoming keener each year between buyers and as new markets open up in the mining centres and become established they will also become more discriminating. Rough stuff that at first was acceptable in the mining camp will soon sell only at a lower rate. It is well for ranchmen not to be deceived in this. This is an age of advancement. No sane man expects that the cattle industry is going to stand still. Rough cattle that are read-

service the best Shorthorn bull obtainable should be used. The calves of this cross will contain 75 per cent. of Shorthorn blood. When the heifer calves of this lot are old enough they should be served by good Shorthorn bulls. The progeny will then contain 87½ per cent. Shorthorn blood. This policy continued with generation after generation will see the stock steadily improving in those qualities for which the Shorthorns are famous. Provided, of course, that care is taken to select well-bred sires with good forms and having the flesh laid on in the most valuable places. This is the only line along which we can hope to work for steady improvement of our herds, and consequently of our export stock. What has been said about Shorthorns by way of example applies to other breeds as well. Let every man choose the breed he likes best or which seems to do the best with him and then stick to it.

A man has a right to look for improvement. He has a right to expect that his stock will possess more quality and be worth more money in ten years' time. He should have an ideal before him of what he would like to make his cattle and he must work for that ideal. The use of pure bred sires combined with culling

breeds, whereas, if only one breed was continuously used the tendencies toward a perfect whole are constantly growing stronger and stronger. We cannot urge the importance of using the best pure-bred sires too strongly, nor can farmers and ranchers use them too quickly.

This matter is of the greatest importance to young men starting a herd or flock. Use nothing but pure-bred sires and thus begin at once to lay the foundation for future improvement.

### An Overfeed of Grain.

Occasionally a granary door may be left open and stock of different kinds find their way in and gorge themselves. What is the best thing to do in the circumstances? A New York farmer says the safest thing is to keep the overgorged animal away from water. He says: "One winter I went to the barn on a cold morning and found that a stable of cows, six or eight in number, had broken loose, gone through on the feeding floor and eaten all they could of damaged wheat that lay there to dry. I was not experienced in handling such a case, but had heard that it was not safe to allow animals to drink



On the Farm of Craig Bros., near Portage la Prairie, Man.

ily saleable to-day will be difficult to sell in a few years.

Another thought is suggested by this article. This is in relation to the ideal ten years hence. How many men stop to ask themselves what improvement there should be in the quality of their cattle at the end of ten or fifteen years? Shouldn't there be a marked improvement? The Farmer claims there should be and would be if every one started right and followed well recognized rules of breeding. To change the present female stock and get better ones is out of the question. What can be done then towards improvement? The only change that can be made is one that comes through the use of pure bred sires. It has been said, and it is true, too, that the bull is half the herd. In conjunction with good care and feed the good qualities of any breed can be engrafted on the common stock of the country by continuously using pure bred sires of that breed. If a rancher or farmer wishes to build up the quality of his herd there is only one rational way to do it so that there will be a steady improvement year by year. If a man fancies the Shorthorn, then let him always use Shorthorn bulls of the very best breeding he can procure. The first calves will have at least 50 per cent. of the blood of the sire in them. When the heifers of this lot are ready for

out of female stock, as the opportunity offers, that come least up to the ideal of the mind's eye, is the only road to this goal. Yet how many men are on the other road? How many men are using grade sires—or if they use a Shorthorn bull for one or two years they then think they should use a Hereford, then perhaps a Polled Angus, and so on. Let me say it frankly, no permanent progress can be made in this way. The grade sire has not the prepotency in him to pass on his own good qualities, no matter how handsome an animal he may be individually. There are a few exceptions, it is true, but the tendency of all grade sires is to grade the stock down rather than up. Look ahead, you men using grade sires and try and picture what the quality of your cattle will be after ten of fifteen years of grading down.

The constant changing from sires of one breed to another works the same result, or nearly so, as the grade sire. The breeding becomes mixed—there is no direction or aim in it. When Shorthorn, Hereford, and Polled Angus tendencies become mixed together in one animal instead of uniting all together toward a perfect whole each one wants to come on top and the strongest tendency generally does so. The tendency of any one breed is weakened by admixture of the other

for some time after such an escapade, so I shut them there all day. I was not a little uneasy over the result, but they came out all right. None of them showed the least effect of the big ration. Much of the grain came through them whole and not swollen to any amount. If I had given the cows a moderate amount of water, as some people recommended, I am very much afraid that the grain, if not digested, would have become enlarged enough to cause ferment and bad bloating, something which did not take place at all. The cows, of course, did not eat anything during the day, but stood quietly in their stalls, doing a sort of penance, as I thought, and waited till the regular functions of nature should set them right again. Next day feed and drink were given as usual and the cows resumed business as though nothing unusual had happened."

The annual meeting of the Dauphin Agricultural Society was held on Jan. 15. The total expenditure for the year was \$3,816.74. Of this \$2,438.52 was for improvements. Total assets over liabilities, \$1,739.64. Date of next exhibition fixed for September 26th and 27th. Geo. Barker, president; G. Strang, 1st vice-pres.; H. B. Whitmore, 2nd vice-pres., and Thos. Whitmore, sec'y-treas.

### Lice on Stock.

Some time every winter there is more or less risk on every farm of stock getting infested with lice. Sometimes those lice come from hens, but other varieties of lice infest not only cattle but other stock as well. The following prescription by an old Scotchwoman is within the reach of every farmer. Take the water in which pork has been boiled and set it aside till cool enough to handle with comfort to the beast to be operated on, but not to make the fat solid. Stir it well at that stage so as to mix in the fat with the water, pour a little at a time along each side of the spine and rub well in. Two or three such applications will do the job. The philosophy of all such applications is that the grease closes up the breathing holes in the body of the vermin. Of course care must be taken to keep this stock in a warm stable a day or two after the application or they may get badly chilled.

### Skilled Beef Making.

L. H. Kendrick, of Bloomington, Illinois, sold 16 high grade Polled Angus steers for Christmas beef at Chicago. The price was \$8.25 live weight. When asked how he managed to turn out cattle so choicely finished, he said:—"I do not fatten cattle, I grow beef. I start the beef-making process before the calf is fairly weaned, having it eating some concentrated food while still drawing its mother's milk. It never knows hunger nor hurtful exposure. During the first year the feeding is liberal and gives good growth, but the youngster is not put on any forcing process. After that it is brought gradually to full feed, corn forming the principal feature of the diet, which contains also some bran and oats, and also a little oil meal, not more than a pound a day. There is variety also in the roughage—clover, timothy, corn-fodder, blue grass and oat straw. The steers are perfectly gentle, showing that they never know unkind treatment. In stock farming cattle can be raised and fed in this way. These cattle weighed when sold an average of 1,538 pounds."

### Galloway Robes.

At a recent meeting in Chicago of the American Galloway Association, Mr. W. E. Brown read a paper on the making of robes. He said that new methods of tanning have been recently discovered which have made possible the production of soft, flexible skins, and in his opinion there will be a great demand for them as soon as the public can be made to understand the immense superiority of robes made from Galloway cattle; there is bound to be a great increase in their value. The hide of a grade is blacker than that of a full blood, but is not of equal value. Imitation Galloway robes are now being made out of the skins of Australian wombats and Chinese goats. D. McCrae, of Guelph, Ont., said that he had had Galloway hides in wear for a great many years and he had found them better than any other robes he had ever tried. He thought they were greatly needed to take the place of the Buffalo robe and that they would command a large market when people were generally informed about them.

R. ANDERSON, Roland, Man., Dec. 28, 1899:—"We are well pleased with The Farmer and would not like to do without it."

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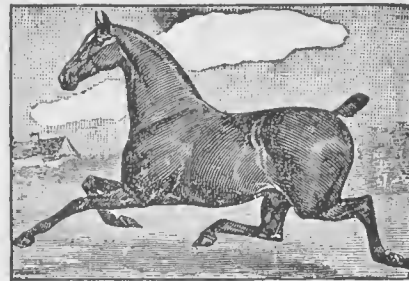
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## Fattening Cattle at Neepawa.

Here and there all over the country one finds a few farmers who have sufficient confidence in stock-feeding to go into it as a special branch of their business, or in a large way. Many of our readers have heard at different times of Hy. Irwin, Neepawa, as an extensive and successful farmer who runs a large town dairy business, and elsewhere we give a short account of his experiences last summer in the line of pork fattening. This winter he has launched somewhat deeply into steer-fattening, and some time ago one of The Farmer's staff called down at his farm, a mile or two south-east of the town, to inspect the new enterprise.

Mr. Irwin has erected a large, cheap frame building, about the size of a skating rink, and in it the cattle are run loose. The building occupies a bluff-sheltered spot in the bottom of the river valley, and the cattle are watered from the river quite close at hand. On account of the protected nature of the spot in which the building is located, and the large number of stock kept inside, the warmth is much greater than it would be if the same building were on the open wind-swept plains.

Irwin had purchased in early winter something like 900 bushels of frozen wheat, and it was intended to mix this with bran, a little shorts, chopped screenings or other cheap feed.

For feeding loose in such numbers the proprietor had to cast about considerably to hit upon the style of manger which would furnish ample room, be easy of access by both feeder and cattle, and be such that there would be no danger of any of the stock being knocked into it and thus killed. As the style of manger adopted seems to be a very good one for this class of work, we give the accompanying rough sketch of how it is arranged. We shall be interested to learn with what success this latest adventure is crowned.

## The Dual Purpose Cow.

In a recent issue of the Breeders' Gazette A. G. Hopkins, late of Neepawa, has an interesting paper, in which he vigorously supports the claim of the Shorthorn to rank as a profitable dual purpose cow, both for this country and the Northwest. In support of his opinion he quotes a herd of 118 Shorthorn grades

fine head and neck. She is descended from a line both sides of animals of decided dairy type, the best of them being known as "Old Bones." Another cow at the Wisconsin Station is of larger frame, not so clean dairy type, but made 393 lbs. butter last year at a food cost of 10.3 cts. per pound. The butter from Rose cost only 6.9 cents for food. The virtue of heredity is strongly emphasized in the cow Rose. By the way, a French Canadian cow, figured by Dr. Couture, Quebec, in a brochure on that breed just to hand, strikingly resembles the style of this great Wisconsin milker.

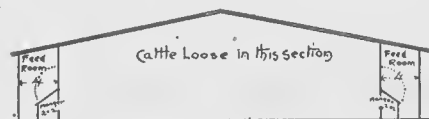
## The French Canadian Cattle.

Dr. J. A. Couture, D.V.S., Quebec, has just issued a neat little pamphlet, entitled "The French Canadian Cattle." It makes most interesting reading. He briefly traces the history of the cattle, pointing out that the early French settlers were from Brittany and Normandy and brought their cattle with them and to-day the cattle in Quebec bear a close resemblance to those of Brittany. These cattle have been bred and kept by the French farmers for over



Bridge at Souris, Man., with Wm. Smith's Farm in the background.

The stock consists of 106 head, mostly steers rising two and three years, with a few heifers and cows mixed through the bunch. They were dehorned when put up for feeding in the beginning of the winter. The proprietor had secured large quantities of straw from a number of neighbors and was arranging at the time of our visit to have a large feed room alongside the main building, just as we have shown in our illustration. It was intended to cut the straw at his cow



barns some distance away, to run the cut feed into a large close rack by means of the blower attachment to the cutting-box, and thus haul it to the feeding stable.

The cattle are fed liberally twice a day. The cut straw and chaff is fed first, and then, when nearly cleaned up, the chop ration is thrown in on the residue. The intention was, we believe, to dampen the straw remaining in the manger before throwing the chop feed upon it, thus causing the cattle to eat all up clean. Mr.

near Janesville, Wisconsin, whose average production in October last was  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. a day—certainly a fair average for that season. At the Wisconsin Station itself, one Shorthorn grade in a 12 months' test gave 506 lbs. of butter, beating all other breeds, while several other cows of the same breed went over the 300 lb. mark. In the Iowa station herd one cow gave 312.5 lbs. butter in 11 months, at a feed cost of \$20.60, her milk testing 3.59 per cent. of fat. Her calf made a good beef steer 1500 lbs. weight. Another cow gave 308 lbs. in 12 months, feed cost \$27.60. Another 327 lbs. in 12 months. Another in 11 months made 339 lbs. Reference is made to female pedigreed Shorthorns of special milking power. British farmers are regarded abroad as rather conservative and prejudiced on this point against the pure dairy breeds, but the great bulk of their dairy stock is Shorthorn and as a rule very high graded at that. As a combination of good milking power with beef possibilities, the Shorthorns and Red Polls stand in Prof. Hopkins' judgment at the top, and are not so difficult to find as some people allege.

In Hoard's Dairyman is given a cut of the 506 lb. cow, Rose, with particulars of her ancestry. She is a strong, hearty looking cow, full behind, with specially

two centuries and a half and in and in-breeding has firmly fixed the type. "The poor little Canadian cow had to fight against the severity of a climate much colder than the French climate. She thrived, however, and acquired such hardiness that we may well say that it is now the breed best adapted to our climate." These cattle are said to possess three characteristics in a marked degree—hardiness, frugality and richness of milk. In fact they are said to be the hardiest cattle in Canada. No doubt they got a rough, severe training when first introduced to the country, when the early settlers were making their homes and had but little shelter for their cattle in winter. Yet the little animal learned to make the best of it, making large yields for the food given her and retaining the richness of milk for which the European descendants from the same stock are also noted to-day. The pamphlet contains the distinctive points of the breed, interesting facts about the milk yields of quite a number of herds, where to find these cattle, and the rules and regulations governing the herd book which was established in 1896. The herd book was kept open for two years for the registry of foundation stock, and during this time 5,307 females and 922 bulls were accepted for registry,

and now none but descendants of registered stock are eligible for registration. The movement to establish the breed was started by the Provincial Government and when the work was well established was turned over to the French Cattle Breeders' Association, who now control the herd book. All information about these cattle and where they can be obtained may be had from the secretary of the association, Dr. J. A. Couture, D.V.S., 49 Garden St., Quebec, Que.

### Extensive Hog Business at Newdale.

We have often heard travellers on the M. & N. W. Ry., in passing Newdale, remarking upon the appearance from the car window of Mr. G. W. Ray's large brown barn, a third of a mile, or thereabouts, to the east of the town. If the traveller is interested in agricultural economy, an additional interest is added when it becomes known that for years Mr. Ray has been raising from 100 to 200 hogs annually. In a conversation with him and a look through his premises, we were pleased to get the benefit of a few of his plans of work. In the first place, it is worthy of note that he has been able to carry on his business on a basis which has been highly remunerative, and he laughs at the old story that "hogs don't pay." In fact, we think it not idle to say that if the hog business did not "pan out" properly Mr. Ray would be one of the first men of our acquaintance to discover that fact and one of the last to continue to follow it up at a considerable loss. As a matter of fact he is so well pleased after a number of years' experience that he has decided to go into this branch of farming even more extensively in the future.

How does he do it? Well, of course, that's rather a big question, but, still, we will try to give a few of his methods. His hogs are not pure-bred, but are Berkshire and Yorkshire grades. We understand that later he may take a hand in some of the blooded lines. His experience has been that in order to make the greatest gain with the least expense it is necessary to study closely the cheapest and most easily produced lines of feed, and then to keep the hogs right along in good growing shape from the time of birth until marketing, without undue rushing, and by keeping an eye more to the feeding of good growing feeds than to giving them fattening or concentrated foods during the growing period. Perhaps in some respects his experience differs slightly from that of others who have been in the hog business (although none the less valuable on that account), but in most points it agrees very well with the lessons which this paper has presented to its readers at various times. He believes that in order to the most profitable raising of hogs, the animal should be kept until it is a year old and marketed at the weight of 275 or 300 lbs., his experience having demonstrated that he can grow them to that age and weight more cheaply than to, say, 200 lbs. at seven, eight or even nine months. Be that as it may, his methods of summering pigs are strictly in accord with the lessons gained from the experiments at our experimental stations and from the experience of very many good hog raisers as well. He aims to have the sows farrow about the end of May or the first of June. The sows are run on a pasture made by sowing wheat.

In passing, it may be of interest to note that Mr. Ray one year sowed a series of test plots of pasture, the plots including wheat, oats, barley, rye, peas, rape and one or two grasses. The hogs were turned in, but stayed so closely to the wheat

that the owner decided that this was the pasture for him. Some of the other plots were also fairly well eaten down, and among the grasses he thinks Brome a promising pasture. When wheat is sown he estimates that seven or eight acres to, say, 125 or 130 hogs, is about the correct proportion. This is kept eaten down and continues to grow right along—green all season.

As the young pigs gradually grow they learn to go out with their mothers and to pick up a good deal of their own living. In connection with the pasture, a light feed of soft slop, made by soaking bran, with perhaps a little oat, barley or other chop mixed in, is given twice a day. The creamery is close at hand, and Mr. Ray has hitherto secured the buttermilk, but he doesn't put as much value upon his adjunct as one would naturally suppose that he might. Probably Mr. Crowe, the buttermaker, gets after those fat globules in such a way that not much substance ever gets into the tank. The hogs have a fine large slough in which to bathe and wallow. So much confidence has Mr. Ray in the value of this bath that he says that if he were placed where he would not be in reach of a natural supply of water he would sink a tank into the ground and keep it filled for them. The pasture is close to the buildings, and the pigs are able to get lots of shade. In the warm months they go out to pasture in the early morning and late in the day, lying in the cool shade in the noontide. A few acres of mangolds and turnips are grown and along about August he commences to feed these, tops and all. "Then," he says, "between the wheat pasture, the turnips and the light grain or bran slop, you should just see them expand. Cheap feed! Why, turnips can be raised for 2½ cents per bushel." In this way the pigs get to be a good size before the winter sets in. During the winter they are fed on pulped turnips, mixed with a bran and chop slop and are run off in early summer after about a month of heavy feeding.

Mr. Ray does not think that fall-born pigs pay him, and intends to have only one litter a year hereafter. The past fall he had a few late ones, but a number of them have got into a stunted condition and are not moving along very fast. Of course he has to omit the root diet from the food of these little fellows, as there is not enough heat producing food in the constituents of the turnips for them.

In wintering, he is trying a new experiment this year. Hitherto he has kept all pigs in a warm stable under the barn. This year he has run a lot of 28 store hogs in a sheltered place under the straw stack, feeding them indoors, and he has been much pleased with the results. Next

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This herd comprises several head of imported Jerseys. It won the herd prizes at Toronto and London Fairs last fall.



season he intends making a strong open pen about 20 or 30 feet square and about four feet high, with a roof securely propped, and then to thresh so as to throw the straw over the top of this and letting it build itself out several feet past the sides of the pen. In this way the pigs will burrow in the straw from the inside and will always be warm. It is intended to protect the opening of this pen in such a way that the winds cannot sweep in. "Of course," says he, "a straw stack is no good for hogs when they have to work in from the outside." The principal advantage which he attaches to the straw stack scheme is the saving of labor in cleaning out pens. Then, too, he thinks there is always a dry atmosphere, which is not always found in pens. In fact, there is a question in the writer's mind if much better results might not be obtained in Mr. Ray's barn if a really good system of ventilation was introduced and the moist atmosphere continually changed for something a little purer, drier and fresher.

We noticed an elevated sleeping place in one pen similar to the drawing we gave in the Sept. 5th issue of *The Farmer*, of the ones used by Joseph Montgomery, of Neepawa. It is well liked.

An easy system of feeding is obtained by having two large tanks set upon wheels and which are run to the root cellar at one end and along past the pigs at the other, passing alongside the pump and under the grain feed spout en route. In this way the work of preparing feed and of feeding is reduced to a minimum.

In conclusion let us say that Mr. Ray keeps a pretty close account of all the expense in feeding, and that he claims that, not counting labor, he has fed at a cost of 35 per cent. of shipping value of hogs, allowing a reasonable price for pasture and turnips and market value for all grain feed fed. As an evidence of his faith in hog raising when properly carried on and under favorable circumstances, he intends, as we said in the outset, to go into it more extensively than ever.

### Swine Breeding.

*By James Bray, Longburn. Read before the Portage la Prairie Farmers' Institute, Jan. 11, 1900.*

At this meeting ten new members were enrolled and the after-discussion, in which J. G. Rutherford, M.P., Wm. Kitson and others took part, was very interesting.

A farmer can go into swine breeding with very little outlay of capital, and the returns to be secured from this branch of stock raising are very substantial. A farmer in going into hog raising must be careful to get the breeds best suited to the requirements of the market, and if districts were to adopt the same breed of hogs it would be to the advantage of all the farmers. There is a tendency among farmers to breed from immature stock as light weight pork is given the preference in the markets; but in the end the results from this immature breeding are not beneficial. It is only by proper selection and retention of the best animals, as well as the best breeds, that the best results can be secured.

The use of mature sires is one of the surest means to ensure improvement and success in swine breeding. The sires should be kept in comfortable and commodious quarters. The sow should not be bred too young, for by so doing her development will be retarded. The sows should be bred as near the same time as possible, so that there will be a uniform lot of pigs to feed and market. Care must

be exercised in the bringing up of the litters. They should be fed a liberal allowance of skimmed milk, shorts and ground oats after weaning, and then gradually brought on to barley meal.

After weaning the sows must be properly looked after, they should be well fed and let run on pasture. Great care should be taken not to have the sow too fat.



Mennonite Windmill.

This mill is situated about 8 miles northeast of Morden, Man., and is used to grind grain for feed. A similar mill stands about 18 or 20 miles south and east of Morden, and is said to have been fitted at first with stones brought from Russia, and was used to grind flour in the early days, but is now used for chopping grain.

While selection and breeding are of great importance, a great deal of value may be lost by unsystematic feeding and management. One great drawback in Manitoba along this line is the lack of suitable grass for hog pasture. I know of no better substitute for this than a liberal allowance of bran, with a little oil-cake or roots, with which my experience is limited. I believe that a good clover pasture would lessen the cost of production if we could grow it successfully. Where a number of sows are kept for breeding, the young sows should be fed and kept in separate pens.

Daily exercise is very necessary for pregnant sows. Crowding and worrying at feeding troughs and sleeping places is sure to have an injurious effect on the litters. A very good plan is to feed and



Elevator at Miami, Man.

keep the sow that is expected to farrow in the pen where she is to farrow, at least one week previous to farrowing, so that she will become acquainted and contented with her quarters. Don't give her much bedding, but enough to keep her clean and dry. Clean out the pen daily. After farrowing let her be as quiet as possible, and when feeding avoid solid food for a few days, giving it more in the shape of a drink. Don't bring her to a full ration

inside of a week. You may avoid many losses by good judgment and observation. A very good ration for a nursing sow is a mixture of bran and shorts, and barley and oats ground.

### How the Sweepstakes Bacon Hogs Were Fed.

One of the live questions of the hour with reference to every variety of stock feeding, is how to get the most profit from a given amount of feed. Our best light is in favor of gradual rather than forced feeding. The food cost is less and the quality of the product superior. Great interest was taken in the bacon competition at the Ontario Winter Show, held in December last, not only as to the feed and breed aspect of the case, but also in regard to the texture of the meat, of which a good few carcasses were found "soft," a defect loudly complained of by all the Ontario bacon-curers. J. E. Brethour is a well-known breeder and feeder and discussing a criticism by a Toronto paper on the above noted points, he says:

"I will venture to say that the eight months old hogs cost less per pound to produce than those killed at six months. It is not a question of charging a given rate per day for the age of each hog; but it is a question of the cost of food given during the life of each pig that will determine the cost of production. I have, upon many occasions, produced pigs weighing 240 pounds at six months old. But the cost per pound of producing these pigs was much greater than it would have been if I had fed cheaper food and allowed a slower growth. In feeding pigs under forced conditions a large portion of the food given is wasted owing to not being assimilated in digestion."

"The pigs with which I won the sweepstakes in the bacon class against all breeds were fed very cheaply. In the first place, these pigs were bred with bacon characteristics, were not predisposed to produce excessive fat, but had the proper length and form. This is a point which requires particular attention because it is impossible to produce a good bacon hog, no matter how you feed him, from a short thick hog that is inclined to put on fat. If a pig of this kind is underfed you may get a lean carcass, but this condition is more undesirable than a thick fat. It will be soft and skiny—of the kind not wanted at any price. Having the right type of pigs I fed them moderately well, until three or four months old, upon wheat middlings, barley and corn chop, with a small addition of skim-milk. After this age they were fed largely upon clover, and later in the season green corn, rape and roots. While being fed this green food they were given a small quantity of whole corn as grain food. One month before finishing they were put up in pens and fed upon a mixture of ground wheat, oats and corn, which was given to them in liberal quantities during the finishing period. Unfortunately I am not able to give the exact cost of producing a pound of this kind of pork, as my hogs were fed, during their growing period, with a number of other pigs; but I feel safe in saying that the cost was less than three and a half cents per pound."

"The most serious condition to be observed in the bacon trade at the present time is 'soft bacon.' I am informed by an extensive packer in Canada that during the past season over sixty per cent. of all hogs received at his factory were either soft or undesirable in form and flesh. This is certainly a serious state of affairs, and steps should be taken to overcome this great trouble. One cause is, trying

to make bacon hogs out of short, thick hogs that are predisposed to produce fat. But the chief cause is, I think, selling unfinished hogs and thinking that, because they are lean they are just what the market wants. What do we find? A carcass to grade No. 1 should have length, depth, an even distribution of flesh along the back, with hams long and tapering well down to hock. When the carcass is cut down the back it should show an even distribution of fat and cutting full of thick, juicy meat. A pig that is underfed will have none of these qualities. The fat will be, uneven, soft and oily; the lean, tough, stringy and hard. On the other hand an overfed pig will show too great a proportion of fat.

"Some lessons to be learned from these facts are, first, you must have a pig possessing good length, with an even distribution of flesh over its body and use care in feeding. By all means avoid over-feeding during the growing period, and if a large amount of vegetable food can be given the cost of production will be greatly reduced.

"In conclusion I would say that with the right type of hog, under proper treatment, the highest class of bacon can be produced as cheaply as the thick fat; and if a little more attention were paid to these points, a larger portion of our pigs would grade No. 1. It is not only the English trade that demands lean, juicy bacon, but wherever pork is used the cry is 'give us more lean.'"

### Those Neepawa Porkers.

A good many of our readers may remember an account or two given in this paper last summer of the purchase by Messrs. Hamilton Bros. and Hy. Irwin, both of Neepawa, of a few hundred Ontario-raised hogs. The conditions under which the speculation was being carried on were outlined on page 600 of our issue of August 21st, from which, in order to more readily place the matter before our readers, we quote the following:—

"They were being fed on ground damaged wheat, costing \$6 and \$8 a ton. In one pen the pigs took their meal from two self-feeders and drank from a portion of the stream fenced in. The meal was fed dry and the pigs had access to it at all times so that they could eat as much as they liked. The self-feeders hold enough for four or five days, so that very little attention is needed in feeding this lot. The pigs are provided with shelter from the sun and having access to water, they take a bath whenever they feel like it, and it is astonishing how often they feel that way. It was an ideal place for fattening pigs, they had nothing to do but 'laugh and grow fat.'

"Close by were other pens well shaded by scrub. The pigs in these pens were fed the same kind of grain, but it was fed wet-soaked and soured. They had made perhaps greater gains, but not enough to pay for the extra cost for labor in feeding occasioned by soaking the food. These pigs did not have access to water for bathing and perhaps if they had would have made even greater gains than they did. A draft of the more advanced pigs taken some time ago showed an average gain of 120 lbs. for 60 days' feeding.

We have been interested ever since to know with just what success the undertaking of these enterprising gentlemen was blessed.

Through their kindness we have been furnished with the following data which, while perhaps not down to the dollar in a few items, is quite approximate enough for all practical purposes. We will first take the two carloads handled by Hamilton Bros. The first consignment was brought in on May 11th and contained

259 hogs, averaging 86½ lbs., and costing \$1,100. The second lot arrived on June 14th, contained 265 hogs, averaging 101 lbs., and cost \$1,305, making a total of 524 hogs, costing \$2,405. Different bunches of the hogs were kept for various lengths of time, but went out after keeping from two to five months, at an average live weight of 207 lbs., at 5 cts. delivered, or \$10 per head clear of freight. The hogs were fed mostly on ground frozen wheat, which cost 25 cents per bushel, and the method of feeding was as described above.

The total feed account was \$1,917. To this expense is added an item of \$175 for labor, etc. The labor necessary to feeding and keeping the pigs under the arrangements which existed would not be so great as under less handy circumstances and probably the wages item of \$175 also includes cost of constructing pens, etc. To put the matter into book-keeping shape, here is the hogs' account:

Dr.	
To purchase price . . . . .	\$2,405 00
" feed account . . . . .	1917 00
" wages, etc. . . . .	175 00
" balance (profit) . . . . .	743 00
	\$5,240 00

Cr.

By cash, 524 hogs at \$10.00 . . . \$5,240 00

Thus it will be seen that after deducting all outlay and expense, the hogs gave a clear profit of \$743, or about \$1.21 each, and were sold at only a very slight advance, pound for pound, over the purchase price. Mr. Hamilton, in giving us the figures, of course recognizes the fact that the past season was a favorable one for the hog-feeding business, but—well, to cut it short, he tells our reporter that The Farmer may say that, if properly handled, there is money to be made out of hogs.

Mr. Irwin gives us the results of his work in round figures. His lot consisted of a carload of 266 hogs, the average weight of which, when bought, being about 87 lbs. These pigs were bought at 5 cts. per lb., and were fed and handled very similarly to the Hamilton lot. The feed was chopped frozen wheat, chopped mill screenings and a little shorts. They were fed from a self-feeder and had the run of the creek. The pigs were kept for an average of nearly three months and cost for feeding, in round figures, \$500. Without deducting cost of labor (which in the case of Mr. Irwin, who farms quite close to the town, would not likely run any higher, if as high, in proportion as with Messrs. Hamilton) the profit on the speculation was about \$325 and Mr. Irwin, we note, is another pleased man.

Dr. Leeny, who ranks high in British veterinary circles, says it is easy to tell a horse's character by the shape of his nose. He says that a gently curved profile and sensitive, well pointed ears indicate a high spirited and gentle animal with very little liability to contract vicious habits. A dish-faced horse, on the other hand, by which is meant one that has a dent in the outline of the nose, may be set down as of the very reverse in disposition to the one described. The Roman nosed animal, Dr. Leeny says, is sure to be safe and though inclined perhaps to be slow, but always sure and likely to get through places that would stop faster if not such strong ones. Farther, the horse with a slight concavity of the profile will be apt to shy and need much coaxing at times, and a horse that has dropping ears is apt to be lazy. This aspect, though, must not always be taken literally, for a horse that is naturally courageous and willing will sometimes drop his ears when he is very tired.



**WORTH \$50 A BOTTLE**  
**To This Man.**

*It may be worth a like sum or even more to you....*

Fingal, Barnes Co., N. D., March 19, 1898.  
Dear Sirs:—I have used your Kendall's Spavin Cure and think it a good Liniment. I have cured a Spavin on my best mare, and I would not take \$125 for her, which I offered for \$75 before. I will be pleased to have your book and receipts for this enclosed stamp, as I read on the carton.  
Truly yours, FRANK SMITH.

Hartington, P. O., Ontario, Mar. 6, '98.

Dr. B. J. Kendall Co.  
Dear Sirs:—Enclosed please find a two-cent stamp for your valuable Horse Book. I had one but it is lost. I have used your Kendall's Spavin Cure without one failure in years, and consider it the best Liniment for man or beast in the market. Please send me the book as you advertise in your bottle, for horses.  
GEORGE BROWN.

It is an absolutely reliable remedy for Spavins, Splints, Curbs, Ringbones, etc. Removes the bunch and leaves no scar. Price, \$1; six for \$5. As a Liniment for family use it has no equal. Ask your druggist for KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE, also "A Treatise on the Horse," the book free, or address

DR. B. J. KENDALL CO., ENOSBURG FALLS, VT.

## Of Interest to Farmers who have Scrub to Remove.

My Patent Land Scrubber has been tested in all kinds of scrub during the past season throughout Manitoba and the Territories, as the unsolicited testimonials below will show.

These land scrubbers are made powerful enough to pull the heaviest scrub, and are guaranteed unbreakable, and will really last a lifetime.

One man with one team will remove as much scrub, root and branch, as five men will cut out, and will do it right.

No scrub plow needed after the scrubber has been used.

I am also building a power to operate the scrubber. One horse is all that is required, being equal to six with a six-inch roller, or by using a team and making the roller or shaft 12 inches in diameter, you will still have the same power, but will double the speed of the scrubber. The horse walks straight out, not in a circle. Every ten feet, six inches travelled by the horse draws the scrubber 18 or 36 inches forward, according to size of roller. Weight of power, about 400 pounds.

Correspondence solicited. All questions willingly answered.

Address,  
Box 18.

A. E. BROWN,  
Hamiota, Man.

Cartwright, Man., May 3, 1899.

A. E. Brown, Esq.: Dear Sir,—Please send me another Scrubber. I have sold the one you sent me, and the man who got it says he would not be without one, as it is a great success. Yours truly, J. P. McKibbin.

Maple Creek, N.W.T., July 10th, 1899.

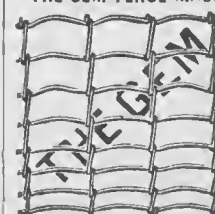
A. E. Brown, Esq.: Dear Sir,—Your Scrubber, as ordered by me, came to hand some time ago. I am well pleased with it. It is all that you claim for it. Yours truly, Chas. McCarthy.

Agricola P. O., South Edmonton,

May 20th, 1899.

A. E. Brown: Dear Sir,—Scrubber to hand O. K. I gave it a trial and am well pleased with the way it handles the scrub. The scrub here is very large. Yours truly, Chas. Armatage.

### THE GEM FENCE MACHINE BEATS ALL RECORDS.



On Nov. 23, 1899, at the Scotten Estate, Sandwich W., Essex Co., Ont., Mr. J. Allen succeeded in smashing all fence-weaving records, and placing to his credit the remarkable record of weaving in 10 hours 120 rods of 10-wire fence, with No. 12 Cross-wires, 15 in. apart, with a Gem Fence Machine.

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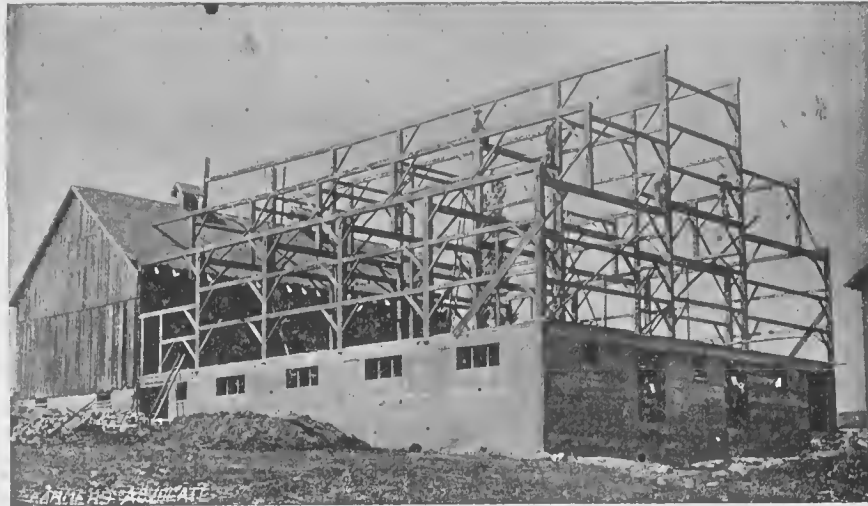
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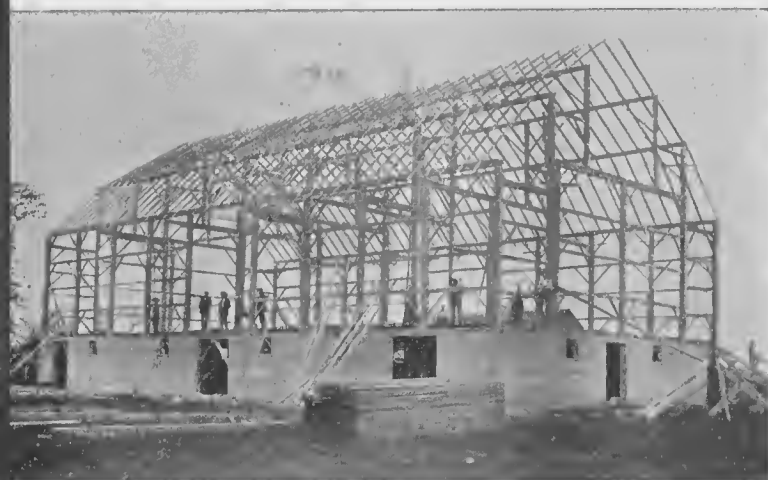
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STATE OF **JOHN BATTLE**  
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Basement and Frame of Mr. J. A. James' Dairy Stock Barn, Nillestown, Ont.  
New portion 72x60 ft., walls 12 ft. high.



This is Mr. T. L. Pardo's (M.P.P.) new Basement Barn,  
The finest and largest in Kent Co. Ont. Barn as it appears in course of construction.  
Size of basement walls, 54x100x9 ft. high.



Barn of Mr. Thomas Dinsdale, Kippin, Ont.  
Size of barn 54x76 ft., basement walls 10½ ft. high., root house 12 26 ft.



Barn of Thomas Hartley, near Norwich, Ont.  
Size of basement walls, 50x68½x9½ ft. high.



This is a Cement Silo, built on the farm of John Louve, Harpley, Ont.  
It is hexagonal—that is, 6 corners—and is 10 ft. across each way, inside measurement, and is 30 ft. high.



## Among the Breeders.

J. A. S. Macmillan, Brandon, has just sold his valuable prize-winning Clydesdale stallion, Burnbrac, to William Bailey, Carberry. This is the right horse for the Big Plains, and we wish him success.

W. D. Flatt, Hamilton, Ont., accompanied by D. C. Flatt, Millgrove, well known as a Yorkshire breeder, sailed from New York for England on Jan. 24th. Although a large number of animals were sold at his recent successful sale, he still has some very useful sires at his farm which he is offering for sale.

Wm. Wilson, Brandon, Man., has made the purchase of a Guernsey cow, 6 years old, from W. Butler & Son, Ontario. A splendid cow of choice breeding. My Fancy of Sedgfield, should give Mr. Wilson every satisfaction as a useful family cow. She is by Squire of Salem, dam Marie of Sedgfield.

Jos. Laidler, Neepawa, reports more sales of his Berkshires, including breeding sows, to Kenneth McGillivray and D. J. McMillan, both of Glendale, also a young boar to Hutton & Brooks, of Grenfell, Assa. The last named weighed 269 lbs. when shipped at seven months old, and is described by Mr. Laidler as a splendid hog.

Thos. Beaubler, Brandon, has recently purchased a nice Jersey cow, Roda Pogis, sired by Jetsma's Dollar, dam Bilde Elect. She was bred by J. C. Suell, Snelgrove, Ont., is now 7 years old and was purchased from W. Butler & Son, Dereham Centre, Ont. She is giving a nice mess of rich milk and is just the thing as a family cow.

Hamilton Bros., hutchers, Neepawa, had on exhibition for the Xmas trade one of the finest meat displays outside the cities. It contained a few prodigies. A five months' old calf raised by Jos. Laidler, Glendale, weighed over 650 lbs.; a couple of heifers raised by Robt. Scott, Neepawa, weighed 1,500 lbs. each; and a yearling heifer raised by J. L. Cook, Newdale, weighed 1,090 lbs. Neepawa does other things besides raising No. 1 hard.

W. C. Murdin, Plumas, Man., places a card with The Farmer in the Breeders' Directory for his Ayrshire cattle. In 1898 he purchased two cows from the Hon. Thos. Greenway. One of them was in calf, the other had a bull calf by her side and was bred by Jas. McCormack & Sons, Rockton, Ont. Her calf was sired by Victor, Imp. in dam, a first prize winner at Winnipeg in 1898. Mr. Murdin is now offering this young bull for sale. He has at the head of his herd now, Prince of Avon, bred by Steel Bros., Glenora, Man. He was placed first at Portage la Prairie as a yearling and again as a 2-year-old.

W. D. Shattuck, Davisburg, Alta., gave The Farmer a call on his way east to purchase more pure-bred stock. He is looking after a shipment of some 60 bulls and wants to get 1,000 head of stockers. While east he will attend the annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association to ascertain what action has been taken by the executive in regard to the charge he laid against H. Wright of selling a grade as a pure-bred and afterwards having her killed to avoid investigation. Readers will remember the case was decided in the Calgary courts against Wright.

A call at James Glennie's, Longburn, found his Holsteins in comfortable quarters. Here we found a nice lot of horses and a few fine Kilburn colts, and in a nicely fitted up box stall the well-known Thoroughbred stallion Kilburn himself, now the property of Jas. Bray and R. Glennie. He was in fine fettle. The old stock bull that has stood at the head of Mr. Glennie's herd is now being put off for beef. It is Mr. Glennie's intention to get the best milk and butter bull he can find to use upon his young stock. Tempest 3rd Clotilde is doing duty at the head of the herd for the present. The cows, headed by Daisy Teake's Queen, are a fine lot, especially one row of five, all prize winners at Winnipeg. Quite a number of the cows are milking and the cream is being shipped to Winnipeg.

Thos. Wallace, Portage la Prairie, is making a beginning in pure-bred Shorthorns. His first females are two fine red heifers of Watt's breeding, of great substance and quality. Maiden's Blush is by Royal Sailor, out of Bonny Bird, out of Bonnie Jean, by Barmpton Hero. The other heifer is Vanilla 2nd by Scottish Pride and he by Royal Sailor, dam Vanilla. She has a nice calf by Riverside Stamp. These are two well-bred heifers, and Mr. Wallace has made no mistake in securing such good blood for foundation stock. The bull he has purchased is also of Watt's breeding, Charger, a red, calved Feb. 18, 1898. He is by Judge, the famous stock bull of the Prairie Home Stock Farm, Crystal City. His dam is Bonny Bride by Slitton Chief. With such blood for foundation stock, Mr. Wallace should do well.

Wm. Kitson, Burnside, Man., has long been known as a breeder of choice pure-bred Berkshire swine, Mammoth Bronze turkeys, Toulouse geese, Light Brahmas and Barred Plymouth Rock fowl. A representative of The Farmer recently found his stock in fine shape. His Berkshires are a nice, smooth, healthy looking lot. The herd is now headed by Western Boy, the stock boar that has done much to make the stock of F. W. Brown, Plainview Farm, Portage la Prairie, so famous. The young pigs in the pens were a likely looking lot, and will give satisfaction to whoever becomes the lucky purchaser of them. His brood sows are a fine lot, being lengthy and deep, with well-formed hams and shoulders and possessing in a high degree those qualities which have made the Berkshire breed such a general favorite. His eight sows have the run of the barn yard and their home in the straw stack. Mr. Kitson believes his sows are better out than housed too closely. They are more healthy and have better litters in the spring. Mr. Kitson's turkeys are well-known for their size and heavy weights. His tom weighs 44 lbs. when in fair condition, while the hens weigh from 19 to 22 lbs. each. His Toulouse geese are noted for their size and quality, and his Brahmas and Barred Rocks are of the best. His buildings are well sheltered by stacks and a bluff.

There are a number of good stock raisers about Shoal Lake, from whom we always are pleased to get a few items of interest and whose stock have not only helped to make up a strong local fair, but have also attracted more or less prominence at the larger shows. In a very short visit to the town by one of our representatives, he noticed that the Menzies Brothers, who have been farming and raising pure-bred stock together north of the town, are all now farming separately. One of the brothers, Alex., now owns a farm just east of the town. We took a run out to see his Standard Bred stallion, Starmont. He is a pretty black, but was just a little under the weather when we saw him, having just recovered from an attack of influenza. He is a well-muscled beast, well-boned, weighs about 1,200 when in condition, and is quite a peacocky fellow and a good mover. He has a mark of 2.28. In 1898 he took 3rd place in the 2.20 trot in Winnipeg, 4th in the stallion trot at the same place, and 1st in the free-for-all at Portage. In 1899 he was 1st in the free-for-all at the local fair, but did not appear on outside tracks. He is nine years old and has been about a year in the hands of his present owner, who informs us that the horse did a good season's service last year, although he was not taken away from the stable. Mr. Menzies still owns a share in the 1st prize Shorthorn bull, The Korke. He has also a good-sized flock of Oxford Down sheep and about 8 or 10 squarely-built Shorthorn females. Mr. Menzies has erected a nice stock barn on his farm and intends to follow two or three lines of pure-bred stock raising.

Purves Thomson, Pilot Mound, Man., writes:—"My stock is looking very well and in a good healthy breeding condition. My stock bull, Calthness, is running out in the day time. He is a little thin, but I never saw him looking better. I am highly pleased with his calves. I still have a few good show animals on hand. The following are a few of the sales I have made recently: To A. Buchanan, Larivière, Manitoba Duke, an eleven months old calf, sired by Emperor Earl, bred by Hon. John Dryden, Brooklin, Ont. To Wm. Whiteman, Larivière, one yearling bull, whose sire is that excellent stock bull, Cavalier, bred by Messrs. Watt, Salem, Ont. To John McDonald, Pilot Mound, Lord Roberts, a roan calf, six months old. This is a very even calf, with great substance. His dam was first as a yearling at the Winnipeg Industrial in 1895 out of a ring of thirteen. She is one of the famed Minnie Annandale tribe, which, twenty-five years ago, were sold for \$2,300 each. Lord Roberts' sire is Calthness. To Thomas Blakely, Pilot Mound, the two-year-old heifer Marchioness 12th. Her dam was bred by Hon. Thos. Ballantyne and her grand dam was imported by him. Mr. Blakely also bought a red two-year-old heifer, Butterfly's Rose 2nd. This heifer has the same pedigree as the two-year-old heifer which was shown by D. Allison, Roland, in 1899, and which took the sweepstakes as the best female on the ground, beating all the imported females. This heifer was bred by J. Lawrence & Sons, Clearwater. Mr. Blakely's heifers are both sired by Hillary, the sweepstakes bull in 1895, and are both in calf to Calthness. To R. M. Wilson, Marrinhurst, Man., the seven months old bull calf, Young Calthness, sire Calthness. He is from the same dam as Mr. Blakely's Marchioness 12th. Is a dark red, straight top and bottom, magnificent head and neck, and will make a bull that will be heard from. Although this bull cost Mr. Wilson a large figure (\$150) at his age, I think he was wise in securing such a fine animal to head his herd. He also bought Butterfly's Rose, the dam of Mr. Blakely's Butterfly's Rose 2nd. She had a very fine red heifer calf, eight days old, sired by Calthness."

The Shorthorn herd of Walter Lynch, Westbourne, Man., is now well-known throughout the west for the high quality and general use-

fulness of the stock sent out. Though his buildings are perhaps not quite so pretentious as some of the stockmen have, yet they are commodious, very comfortable, and pleasantly situated in a bluff. The first thing Mr. Lynch showed us was a sight that would please any breeder and one which would result in a sale had an intending purchaser been looking at them. It was six bull calves just about a year old—all good ones. The largest in the bunch was Grey Hero, by Village Hero, the roan twin shown at Winnipeg in July. He has been sold to John P. Garnett, Carman. Three of these calves were roans, the other three reds. One of the younger roans is by What For No, the others are by Village Hero. This old stock bull was next visited and found to be in surprisingly fine condition and still as active as a kitten on his feet. A young bull has recently been purchased from W. S. Lister, Middlechurch, Man., to use upon Village Hero's heifers. This young bull is a mossy-coated roan, Scottish Canadian, by Village Boy and out of Crocus 24th, an imported cow. He was imported in dam and his sire is reported to be an exceedingly fine bull and was shown at the Scottish fairs last year. His dam, Crocus 24th, was bred by Geo. Shepherd, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and was said to be the best heifer imported by A. Johnston in 1878. Her half-sister, Crabstone Baroness, was sold at W. D. Flatt's sale to H. Cargill & Son for \$610. The young bull handles well and is in every way as good as his pedigree, and Mr. Lynch should get some excellent stock from him. The next thing we saw was a bunch of ten heifer calves well up to a year old. Six of them were by What For No, the rest by Village Hero. They were a fine lot of thick, well-doing heifers and speak as loudly as the young bulls did of the excellent qualities of the sires at the head of the herd. One pair of twins out of Ruby, by What For No, were much admired. Grizette, the roan twin, mate to Grey Hero, and first as a heifer calf at Winnipeg last July, is developing nicely and will give a good account of her feeding when the proper time comes. Six young heifer calves in a stable with their dams were broad-backed, well-formed ones—all but one by What For No. A turn through the stables showed the cows and other heifers all in fine breeding condition. They are all in calf to Village Hero and What For No. The herd numbers something like 60 head of choice animals, and Mr. Lynch has good reason to be proud of his fine herd.

Jas. Bray, Longburn, Man., is only a recent beginner in Shorthorns, but he has had considerable experience in handling pure-bred stock, having attained a high degree of success with his Jersey herd, which he dispersed some years ago, and also with his Improved Yorkshire Swine. The knowledge thus gained of pure-bred stock has been of advantage to him in selecting his foundation stock of Shorthorns. They were carefully chosen both for individual merit and on account of possessing the blood of families famous for their good qualities. He has at the head of the herd Masterpiece, a red roan noted for his ability to get calves possessing in a large degree those qualities which have made the breed famous. It was on this account that Mr. Bray purchased him. Lord Lossie, a rich red bull, now at the Brandon Experimental Farm, stood at the head of the herd for some time and quite a number of cows are in calf to him. Some of them have calved and their calves show him to be a sire of no mean ability. The March bull calf purchased from R. S. Fulton, Brownsville, Ont., is a smooth black fellow, with a nice coat and skin and promises well.

Among the females we may mention Maiden Star, a smooth, even-fleshed, well-developed heifer in calf to Lord Lossie, and her companion, Minnie Warrior 6th, who has an exceptionally promising calf. Both these heifers are choice specimens of the breed, being of the thick, heavy fleshed sort, and should make good foundation stock. Among others, we may mention Stella of Longburn, a red roan of promise; Minnie Blyth, a red; Lovely Queen 23rd; Crimson Gem, a well-fleshed cow, with her second calf, a nice one by Lord Lossie, and Guysboro' Queen. Ruby, a Calthness heifer, bred by A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, Ont., a red heifer of great merit, and two Knuckle Duster heifers are broad backed, thick, low set, useful heifers that should do good service for Mr. Bray.

His Yorkshires are well-known in all parts of the West. The boars at the head of his herd come from two well-known leading herds in Ontario, Oak Lodge Jacko, from J. E. Brethour, of Burford, Ont., and Lord Minto, from H. J. Davis, Woodstock. Both represent the best strains of the breed. These two boars were running together and doing well. In one pen were some seven or eight brood sows all due to farrow soon. They were a fine lot to look at as they were turned out for a run in the barn yard. In a comfortable pen we found Nancy 2nd had just farrowed a nice litter, which were doing well. Nancy 2nd's Maid had a good litter with her, a few weeks old, that were thrifty, growthy fellows—good enough to please anyone. Young stock were all in fine thriving condition. Mr. Bray is also quite proud of his stableful of good heavy farm horses, and particularly of his Hack-



ney and Kilburn colts, which are good ones, and no mistake. He has sold recently to C. W. Peak-er, Yorkton, Assa., one Yorkshire sow out of his diploma sow, and another to G. W. Lobb, Glen-smith, Man.

A representative of The Farmer recently had the pleasure of paying a visit to Plainview Stock Farm, the home of F. W. Brown, some 11 miles north and a little east of Portage la Prairie. We found the cattle snug in their comfortable quarters and in fine healthy condition. The cement floors put down in the fall of 1898 are standing all right, and Mr. Brown would not be without them now for anything. Lyndhurst IV, the head of the herd of Shorthorns, is looking well and is carrying a wealth of flesh evenly laid on. He has been developing and improving year by year, and since exhibition time has set out some, and if brought out again next July it will take a good animal to down him. To his many excellent qualities of form must be added that which is prized by all stockmen—a good breeder. His stock do him credit. Spicy Robbin, 29576, by Red Robbin by Royal Sailor, and out of Village Maid, is a rich mossy-coated roan young bull in this herd that promises well. He is evenly-fleshed all over, but has an excellent, well-covered top. He carries his flesh well down and promises to make something nice. Among the matrons of the herd we may mention Galety V. She needs no introduction to our readers, as she was a winner at Winnipeg last July. She is in nice condition and in calf to Lyndhurst IV. Her stable mate, Flossie Fergus, is a large, deep-fleshed cow, of good quality and also heavy in calf to Lyndhurst IV. Plainview Belle, out of Flossie Fergus, is a substantial heifer that will give a good account of herself in the herd. Orient 2nd is another good one, so also are three nice red heifers bred by T. Waters, Rockwood, Ont. But we must not forget to mention Windemere Gem, first at Winnipeg last year as a calf. She is out of Galety V. by Lyndhurst IV. Since fair time she has set out and developed nicely, handles well and is in splendid thriving condition. If she keeps on at her present rate of gain she will make something nice next year. Rosamond VI, 3rd prize yearling red heifer, by Village Boy IX, is also coming on nicely under Mr. Brown's careful supervision. She has lost none of her depth or thickness of flesh, and it is not intended that she should. She, too, as well as other nice heifers, are all in calf to the old stock bull and should drop profitable calves for any man to handle. All the young stock were in good, thrifty growing condition.

But the cattle are only part of the good stock to be seen at Plainview Farm. The Berkshires, headed by such prize winners as Tippecanoe and Western Boy, from this farm are well-known in the show ring. Both these boars have been sold, however, Western Boy to Wm. Kitson, Burnside, and Tippecanoe to Wm. Currie, Carberry. The herd is now headed by Gallant Boy, 5430, bred by T. A. Cox, Brantford, Ont. He is sired by the famous Fitz Lee and out of Lady Lorne. He is a lengthy animal, yet carrying proportional thickness and depth, and should leave Mr. Brown a lot of nice stock. Among the dozen or so breeding sows, all excellent ones, a few can be picked out that will be hard to beat in any show ring. When we remember that sows from this herd won first and second places for sows over two years old, and first and third over one year at Winnipeg last year and other leading prizes in the young classes, we know that Dominion Lass, Belle of Plainview, Prairie Flower, Cora Belle, Highclere 20th and Lady Clifford, are names of front rank animals. They are but a sample of the breeding sows at the farm. The young stock are thrifty looking and in good flesh. One lot of five out of Black Belle, by Highclere King, and another lot by Western Boy, out of Countess, were fine samples of young pigs such as any one might well be proud to own. The Cotswold sheep were looking well in their short coats, having all been shorn in October. Mr. Brown finds his sheep do better clipped twice a year. He is a careful feeder and all his stock have his personal supervision—a necessary matter on every well-managed stock farm.

The Forest Homo herd, Pomeroy, Man., now numbers 41 head of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, 33 females, 7 young bulls, and the present head of the herd, Robbie O'Day, 22672. Every female in the herd over 2 years old is either in calf or milking, and the entire herd is in the nicest of thriving condition. Among the aged matrons in the herd are to be found representatives of such families as the Duchess of Gloster, Missle, Rose of Autumn, Rosemond and other families of equal note, and the get of such famous bulls as Indian Chief, imp.; Duke of Lavender, imp.; Royal Member, imp.; and Lord Stanley. There is nothing in the herd more highly appreciated than a string of eight young cows and heifers left by the old stock bull, Manitoba Chief (by Imp. Indian Chief), one of the very best stock bulls in Canada to-day, and at present doing service in the herd of Nelson Bedford, Glencross, Man. These heifers are of the low-down, heavy, early mature sort that at present are meeting with such general favor.

Robbie O'Day, 27672, now just past his fourth year, will tip the scale beam at very near the 2,700 mark, and could be made to go very close to

3,000 lbs. He is a grand good bull throughout, straight in all his lines, great beard girth, splendid chest, giving plenty of lung space, broad, strong back and well-covered rump. His breeding is quite as good as his individual merit, his sire being Prime Minister, imp., bred by William Duthie, Collynie, Aberdeen, Scotland, and he by the great show stock bull, Chesterfield, whose dam, Princess Lovely, is by Field Marshal, the greatest sire ever used in Mr. Marr's herd, his grand-dam by Heir of Englishman. Field Marshal was on hire in the Queen's herd at 200 guineas for the season. Marigold, the dam of Robbie O'Day, was a cow of fine quality and great substance, weighing very close to a ton. She is by Challenge, who is by the celebrated Barmpton Hero. Challenge, himself a Toronto winner, sired Stanley, the show and stock bull that made the Russell herd famous by winning at the World's Fair three firsts out of the five offered. Lord Stanley, one of his sons, took two firsts at the same fair, also first in his class at Toronto. Stanley is also the sire of Topsman, now covered with glory on account of winning the championship at Winnipeg, Toronto, London and Ottawa. Challenge, when an aged bull, was taken to Prince Edward Island, where he sired several provincial champions and was retained at the head of the Government Shorthorn herd until 16 years of age, and was sent to the butcher a good carcass of beef when 17 years old. Mr. Graham made no mistake in selecting Robbie O'Day as stock bull for the Forest Home herd, as the young things of his get in the herd, numbering a dozen and a half all told, fully attest. Among them are some crack show things that will likely be heard from later on. This herd has been very successful in show ring competition, winning at last Industrial nearly as much as any other two herds on home-bred stuff.

The herd of Yorkshires never was in better form. The stock boars doing service in the herd at present are Snowman the 11th, 1st in his class and winner of diplomas as best boar any age at the last Industrial, and the imported boar, Summer Hill Premier, also first in his class. Among the brood sows are to be found such individuals as Jubilee Queen bred by Jos. Featherston, Streetsville, Ont. This is a remarkably fine sow, one that would, if in show condition, scale at least 800 lbs. She is a perfect model of the bacon hog. Another beautiful young sow is Summer Hill Royal Beauty, first in her class at last Industrial, and bred by D. C. Platt from imported sire and dam. This is a show sow all over, and will be hard to turn down. Another royal good one is Greenway No. 7, bred by J. E. Brethour, Burford, Ont., and out of Miss Stamina, a sweepstakes sow wherever shown. Greenway No. 7 is following in her tracks, and was first in her class at the last Industrial. A half dozen sows of the Marjorie family have been doing fine service for their owner, since the herd was established, both in the show ring and as producers of the right sort. These, along with a few of Jubilee Queen sows, make up the balance of one of the best Yorkshire herds in the province. The much-coveted sweepstakes prize for the best boar any age has been carried off for four years in succession by bogs bred in this herd. This is a pretty good record and one of which any man should be proud. A number of very choice young Berkshire sows, all in pig, are for sale; also a couple of good boars. These will be sold cheap, as Mr. Graham has decided to close out the Berkshires, as he believes greater success can be attained by handling only one breed.

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## Answers to Questions.

By an Experienced Veterinarian.

As it is desired to make this column as interesting and valuable as possible to subscribers, advice is given in it free in answer to questions on veterinary matters. Enquiries must in all cases be accompanied by the name and address of the subscriber, but the name will not be published if so desired. Free answers are only given in our columns. Persons requiring answers sent them privately by mail must enclose a fee of \$1.50. All enquiries must be plainly written, and symptoms clearly but briefly set forth.

### Chronic Cough.

S. Pettapiece, Man.: "I have a 2-year-old filly which took distemper last spring and also took inflammation of the lungs at the same time. She has had a cough at times ever since; is in good condition now and doing well, excepting the cough. Can anything be done to relieve it?"

Answer.—Chronic cough following inflammation of the lungs is not always easy to cure, but you will find the following a useful remedy:—Iodide of potassium, 1½ ounces; fluid extract of hydrastis canadense, 1 ounce; glycerine, 1 ounce; water, 8 ounces. Give a tablespoonful twice a day.

### Out of Condition.

Subscriber, Carberry, Man.: "I have a young mare, five years old, which keeps gaunt, especially when standing in the stable. I have had her mouth examined and found her teeth to be in first-class shape. I have been feeding her sheaf oats and a little boiled barley once a day. Please prescribe."

Answer.—Give her a dose of physic, consisting of seven or eight drachms of aloes, according to her size. Feed her on bran mashes without hay for twelve hours before and after giving the dose. After her bowels have "set" again, and she is on her regular diet, give her, twice a day, a tablespoonful of the following powder: Sulphate of iron, 4 ounces; sulphate of soda, 1 pound; powdered ginger, 2 ounces. Mix together.

### Scours.

Kruger, Wapella, Assa.: "Kindly tell me what to give my horse, aged 6 years, which scours badly in the morning after eating, but gets better towards noon. He is a good feeder, but eats his meals very fast. I am feeding whole oats and good hay, with a little oat straw and oat sheaf at noon. He is in good condition, but a little dull in his coat. Would it be better to have his oats chopped?"

Answer.—You should either feed him crushed oats or else give a slow-feeding box for him. Don't feed any straw or sheaf oats to him. A few doses of sulphate of iron and bicarbonate of soda will do him good, a small teaspoonful of the former and tablespoonful of the latter in the feed twice a day.

### Diarrhoea.

E. A. W., Rahit Point: "I have a cow 5 years old, also an ox 7 years old; both are ailing from the same complaint, that is, they have got very thin, manure is very soft and runs like diarrhoea, gives bad smell in stable, fed or nothing but hay. Ox is very dull and eats little. What is the matter with them?"

Answer.—Diarrhoea is usually the result of improper food or drink, and if the hay is of good quality and the water pure, it is difficult to say what is the cause. Possibly it may be tuberculous, which will produce diarrhoea when it attacks the liver or bowels. You might try the following powders: Carbonate of ammonia, 2 ounces; powdered galls, 6 ounces; ginger and gentian, of each 2 ounces. Divide into twelve doses and give one three times a day in a bottle of gruel.

### Pink Eye.

Subscriber, Percy, Assa.: "My horses have pink eye, and I give a teaspoonful three times a day on their tongues, equal portions of nitrate of potash and chlorate of potash. Why do

mares with it cast their colts? Is it the medicine, or what is the cause? What medicine would you advise to give?"

Answer.—Pink eye is the popular name for influenza of a severe type. It is a very debilitating or, weakening disease and frequently causes abortion in mares. The disease is seldom fatal, but horses affected with it should not be neglected on that account, for exposure to cold, or fatigue from working a sick animal, will cause dangerous if not fatal complications to arise. Do not give potash salts to horses affected with pink eye. Muriate of ammonia is much better, and is given in similar doses. Finely powdered camphor is a good remedy in cases when there is much prostration, given in doses of one to one drachm. Keep the patients warmly clothed, and feed carefully.

### Removing a Callus.

J. S., Blaris: "1. I have a horse which got cut by hair wire two years ago on hind leg below hock, leaving a soft lump with dry scab, leg swells in winter more than in summer, is not lame. Would a blister be good. 2. I also have a colt which is standing in stable nearly all the time, she scours badly at times, her feed is oat straw and about half a gallon of oat chop. Would a change of feed be good? What is the cause? She is a heavy drinker, but is in good condition. 3. Is oat straw and chop good feed for mare in foal?"

Answer.—1. No, do not blister the swelling, but rub in a little iodine ointment once a day until the lump disappears. 2. The oat straw is probably too indigestible for the colt and irritates the bowels, causing diarrhoea. You had better change to hay. 3. Yes. If the mare has good digestive organs she should do all right on the feed you mention. As she approaches the time of parturition the feed, however, should be more laxative and less bulky than your present ration.

### Itchiness from Mange or Lice.

U. V., Virden, Man.: "I saw in your last issue a piece about horses having itchy legs, so I thought I would write and see if it is the same that ails our horses. The symptoms are much the same, only that our horses have all broken out between the hind legs. They are itchy all over the body. When out loose they are hitting each other's withers all the time or scrubbing their hind legs against the fence. Please let me know what is the cause and cure."

Answer.—Your horses are affected with something more than leg mange, and are either suffering from general mange or have become badly infested with lice. The latter are not hard to find, and if you can't detect any, the trouble is probably mange. For the cure of this you should clip the horses and then rub them all over with the following liniment: Creosote, 2 ounces; sulphur, 4 ounces; raw linseed oil, 1 quart. Where the skin is scabby or thick rub in well. In three days repeat the treatment, first washing scabby places with soft soap and warm water.

### Strained Pastern.

R. S. J., Oxhow, Assa.: "1. I have a filly coming 2 years old. I turn her out part of the day for exercise. One afternoon when I went to get her in, she was going on three legs, having evidently sprained or twisted the left hind leg. She can now put the weight of her body on the leg, but it seems to pain when turning round. The pain seems to be below the fetlock joint; there is little or no swelling, but to the touch is very painful. Have been bathing with warm water quite frequently. 2. Does a pony colt get its growth quicker than the larger class of horses, such as the Clyde? What I want to know is: Will a 2-year-old pony colt be nearer its full growth than a 2-year-old Clyde?"

Answer.—1. The colt has strained the ligaments of the pastern, and an injury of these structures sometimes results in the formation of a ringbone. Reduce the pain and inflammation by frequently bathing with hot water, and after the soreness has disappeared apply a fly blister. 2. Yes.

### Swelled Leg.

J. R. G., Ellsboro, Assa.: "Will you please advise me what to do with a mare that has got a big leg, swollen to the hock? She has had this for about a year, and it will at times go down when she is working steady. Lately she was so lame upon that leg that I had to work her in the stable. The lameness has now gone but the leg is as big as ever."

Answer.—A chronic swelled leg of a year's standing such as this is not an easy thing to cure, and will require some time and careful attention. The animal should be exercised or worked every day. After she returns to the stable take a pail of hot water and bathe the leg for half an hour. Wipe dry and then rub in

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Winnipeg . . . . .	Ar. Mon., Wed., Fri.		20 45
Portage la Prairie . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs., Sat.	13 25	
Portage la Prairie . . . . .	Lv. Mon., Wed., Fri.		18 35
Gladstone . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs., Sat.	15 05	
Gladstone . . . . .	Lv. Mon., Wed., Fri.		18 15
Neepawa . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs., Sat.	16 03	
Neepawa . . . . .	Lv. Mon., Wed., Fri.		15 55
Minnedosa . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs., Sat.	17 00	
Minnedosa . . . . .	Lv. Mon., Wed., Fri.		15 15
Rapid City . . . . .	Ar. Tues., Thurs.	18 20	
Rapid City . . . . .	Lv. Wed., Fri.		13 15
Birtle . . . . .	Lv. Sat.	19 55	
Birtle . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs.	19 30	
Birtle . . . . .	Lv. Mon., Wed., Fri.		12 30
Binscarth . . . . .	Lv. Tues., Thurs.	20 50	
Binscarth . . . . .	Lv. Sat.	22 34	
Binscarth . . . . .	Lv. Mon.		11 25
Binscarth . . . . .	Lv. Wed., Fri.		11 05
Russell . . . . .	Ar. Tues., Thurs.	21 40	
Russell . . . . .	Lv. Wed., Fri.		9 40
Yorkton . . . . .	Ar. Tues., Thurs.	1 20	
Yorkton . . . . .	Ar. Sat.	23 30	
Yorkton . . . . .	Lv. Mon.		8 30
Yorkton . . . . .	Lv. Wed., Fri.		7 00

**W. R. BAKER,** General Manager. **A. McDONALD,** Asst. Gen. Pass. Agt.

some of the following liniment: Iodide of potassium, 1 ounce; oil of origanum, 1 ounce; methylated spirits, 1 quart. If the leg is hairy, it should be clipped. After bathing and rubbing the leg, apply a flannel bandage from the foot to the hock and leave it on until you take her out of the stable again. Bandage moderately tight, avoiding creases.

#### Laminitis.

Subscriber, Morris, Man.: "Have a mare, 4 years old, that in June last got an over-fed of ground wheat; next day was very stiff, but in three days was perfectly over it as far as could see, until three weeks ago, when I noticed her a little stiff, and she has gotten worse. For about five minutes after she gets up she seems to be in great pain in front, which she shows by crossing her fore legs, first one, then the other. If driven a mile or so, can scarcely notice it on her. Give cause and treatment, also state if you think she can be cured."

Answer.—Soreness in the feet is a common sequel to an over-fed of wheat, and often remains a permanent condition. Your mare is young and has a good chance of getting over it. Let her stand on an earthen floor in place of planks, or if that is not attainable, keep her feet cool and moist by stuffing them with linseed meal made into a stiff mass with water. A good sharp fly hister applied to the coronets will have a good effect in removing the soreness. See answer to Subscriber, Belmont, for advice as to working and shoeing her.

#### A Poor Feeder.

Poste Restante, Carman, Man.: "I have a young mare, which is coming four years next spring, that does not take kindly to her food. I have been giving her oats and bran twice a day and boiled barley at night, a little salt three or four times a week, and occasionally a teaspoonful of condition powders. She is a poor drinker; some days will hardly drink any water. She appears in good condition and her coat is looking well. She has been horsing terribly for the past fortnight. Her off hind leg is evidently strained, for she runs a little lame, but I cannot see any cause for her limping. She has never done any work to speak about, but a month ago she pulled about 12 cwt. up a grade and a distance of 18 miles, since which she has been lame. Please advise me the best thing to do."

Answer.—Your mare is just the age when the teeth often require some attention. The exchange of milk teeth for permanent ones is a process which does not always run smoothly. At times the milk tooth does not drop out when it should, and may remain in the mouth, partly loose and partly attached to the gum, giving the horse more or less annoyance when eating and drinking. The animal will then eat and drink less than it should and be hard to keep up. You should take her to a V. S. and have her mouth examined, and at the same time get his opinion on her lameness, as it is impossible to locate it from the few details in your letter.

#### Cough—Symptoms of Tuberculosis.

Subscriber, Glenlyon, Man.: "1. I have a cow, 9 years old; has been troubled with a cough for about three years; seems to cough worse in cold weather and when given salt; otherwise in good condition. Would you kindly let me know what is the trouble and what treatment she should have? 2. What are the symptoms of tuberculosis? 3. I have a colt coming 2 years; thin in flesh, although well fed; seems to sweat a good deal at night; her hair is wet in the morning. Please prescribe."

Answer.—1. Either tuberculosis or chronic bronchitis. You should have her tested with tuberculin, and if she fails to react, treat her for the latter disease. Cattle sometimes are attacked by a small parasite worm which establishes itself in the bronchial tubes of the lung, causing chronic cough. They are treated by inhalation of turpentine and by giving creosote internally in small doses for a considerable time.

2. Tuberculosis may attack any organ of the body, and the symptoms will vary according to the locality and function of the organ attacked. A large variety of symptoms may therefore accompany tuberculosis, but as a rule the disease attacks the respiratory organs, and the symptoms of its presence there are: Cough, general unthriftiness, gradual loss of flesh, fever, emaciation, rapid breathing, increased pulse, high temperature, areas of dullness on examining the lung by percussion, etc. It must be remembered that these symptoms do not appear together, but successively, and it is quite frequent for a cow to have tuberculosis for some time before a single symptom can be seen. This is what makes the tuberculin test so invaluable in revealing these doubtful cases.

3. Your stable probably needs ventilation and is hot and stuffy at night. If such is the case, you should rectify it at once, for it is highly injurious to a horse to sweat at night.

#### Leucorrhœa—Laminitis.

Subscriber, Belmont, Man.: "1. I have a mare, 9 years old in the spring. She had a colt in the spring of 1897 and was badly torn; is running thick white matter all the time and she seems unable to keep her horsing stuff, for it is running down her legs. She is in good health. Would you kindly let me know what treatment she should have? 2. I have a horse, 5 years old in the spring. A year ago last summer he took lung fever and has been stiff ever since in his front feet. He stumbles badly when he strikes his toe. He is quite fleshy now and very healthy. The cords in the back of his legs are generally swollen, and worse when working. What is the trouble and can he be cured?"

Answer.—1. Your mare is suffering from leucorrhœa, the result of the injury received in parturition. You should get a large veterinary syringe, the kind like a small force pump with a rubber hose attached are the best, and inject the passage daily with an antiseptic wash. Creolin will be the best antiseptic to use for this purpose. Make a warm solution by adding a tablespoonful to half a pail of warm water. Oil the end of the tube and pass it gently into the passage for about 18 inches. Then pump in the fluid very gently, so as to wash out all discharge. You may have to continue treatment for some time, as the condition is now chronic and will likely be difficult to cure.

2. This horse seems to be affected with chronic laminitis or soreness in the feet, and suffers also from tenderness in the back tendons. You should avoid working him anywhere except on soft land. Do not use him on the road. Keep him shod with a large heavy shoe without caulks, so that the frog can reach the ground. If you can give him a run on the pasture after the spring work is over, it will do him a lot of good. In that case take his shoes off. The swollen tendons are best treated by hot fomentations, followed by rubbing in some liniment.

#### Injured Shoulder.

Subscriber, Penrith, Man.: "I have a good driving horse that slipped and fell and injured his left shoulder about two years ago. He could not put his foot to the ground for six weeks. I rubbed the shoulder with some strong liniment and turned him out to pasture and kept rubbing with the liniment, and he got nearly all right. Last summer he got very lame and the muscles and flesh have all decayed off the shoulder-blade and he is very lame. Is there any cure, and what would he good for him?"

Answer.—Your horse must have injured the bone when he fell, most likely breaking away a fragment of the edge of the bone at the shoulder joint. The bone here is hollowed out into a shallow cup to receive the rounded head of the arm-bone or humerus, and the edges of this bony cup are easily chipped off by such violence as that received in a fall on the shoulder. The fragment has long ago united with the rest of the bone, but as is often the case with fractures extending into a joint, the line of union has remained rough or raised above the proper level, and consequently every movement of the joint causes pain. The horse tries to avoid this pain as much as he can by putting his weight on the other foot, hence the lameness, and by moving the joint as little as possible, hence the wasting of the muscles, which seem "decayed" off the shoulder blade. Treatment is not likely to do him any good, but as you are anxious to try something, you might apply an absorbent blister over the joint. When the effect of that has passed off, begin to attempt to restore the movement of the joint by taking the leg in your hands and drawing it as far forward as possible and then back, repeating the movement often and several times a day. If improvement follows on this treatment, give him light walking exercise, increasing in amount from day to day as he is able to stand it. The muscles will fill out and regain their power if the joint becomes well again.

#### Boiled vs. Raw Oats.

J. T. C., Qu'Appelle, Assa.: "1. Will you please tell me whether boiled oats are better for horses than raw oats, and why? 2. Is it possible to keep horses' shoulders from getting sore, and how? What is the best and quickest way to cure them when they get sore?"

Answer.—An occasional feed of boiled oats is a beneficial change for a horse, and exerts a laxative effect on the bowels, but the continuous feeding of boiled food in preference to dry is a mistake and injures the digestive organs. The saliva is not merely a lubricating fluid intended to moisten the food and cause it to slide easily down the gullet into the stomach. It has this function, certainly, but also something more. It has a special digestive effect upon the starchy elements of the food, converting them into a soluble substance called diastase. Now, when boiled or wet food is eaten by a horse, comparatively little saliva is swallowed with it, and consequently the conversion of starch into diastase is incompletely performed by reason of its absence. Starch forms a large proportion of the

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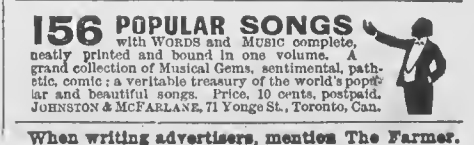


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digestible part of all grains, and if it passes through the intestines undigested, a considerable loss of feed is caused. Continuous feeding upon boiled and wet foods is followed by a diminution in the amount of saliva secreted, the salivary glands become smaller, and when a dry diet is resumed the proper amount may not be secreted.

2. Keep horse's shoulder well by carefully fitting the collars, and hardening the skin gradually to the pressure of the collar. After a winter's comparative idleness, the shoulders are naturally tender and will not stand the pressure of severe work unless hardened to it. This may be accomplished by giving a little collar work for this purpose a few days before regular hard work begins. Also by bathing the shoulder with an astringent lotion such as two drachms of tannic acid dissolved in a pint of water. This is applied to the shoulder twice a day when the collar is taken off and toughens the skin considerably.

#### Cause of Death.

J. M. W. Plumas, Man.: "A cow took sick one morning and died the next night. Her feed had been about two quarts of oats and bran mixed, once a day for a month and more before her death. One day she would not eat any hay, grain, or drink water. Thought she had indigestion, so gave her a dose of salts. She worked her jaws as though she had something in her mouth and could not get it between her teeth, and held her head up high. Continued the salts. She had no cough, and seemed to have convulsions near the last. I disinfected the premises after her death and burned the bedding. What was the cause of her death, and is there any danger of the other cattle taking it? Did I do right in fumigating the stable?"

Answer.—The symptoms presented by sick cattle are often few and insignificant, and the veterinarian is sometimes at a loss to know exactly what is the matter, even when he has questioned the owner and made a careful examination of the animal. How much more difficult is it to say what was the matter with a dead cow upon which no post-mortem examination was held, and with no other guide than the narration of a few of her symptoms. It would be unwise to express anything like a positive opinion in such a case, but in order to relieve the mind of the owner it is well to state that the facts do not indicate death from any contagious disease. I should rather suspect the heart as the seat of the trouble. Cattle, and especially pregnant cows, will often swallow such things as bones, nails, bits of crockery and wire. These bodies lodge in that part of the stomach called the reticulum, or "honey-comb" bag. This part lies near the heart, and it often happens that if pointed body like a wire nail gets into this part of the stomach it will make its way towards the heart by a gradual process of ulceration through the tissues. The pumping action of the heart and diaphragm are no doubt the cause of the nail taking this direction. When it reaches the covering of the heart the foreign body causes grave disorders, such as pericarditis, and death follows in a short time. The symptoms shown by your cow would accord with this theory, but as you made no post-mortem examination, you have lost the opportunity of ascertaining the real cause of death.

#### Intestinal Worms.

Old Subscriber, Treherne, Man.: "1. Horse 9 years old. When finishing work in fall appeared not to be well. Rested two weeks and apparently got better, but noticed that he passed some long round worms. Appetite had been good all along. Got some powders composed of calomel and tartar emetic. After giving powders, gave a dose of raw linseed oil, but got no worms from horse. Horse quit eating for five days and got very thin. Have fed different horse foods and condition powders, but as soon as horse begins to put on flesh he goes off feed again. No life, very slow and sluggish. Used to lie down, but appeared to be weak across the kidneys and it was hard work for him to get up. Never lies down now, and belly and sheath badly swollen and hard. Have given exercise. Horse weak and has passed some worms lately. 2. Purchased mare 7 years old last fall. Came from B. C. Thin when I got her. Coat very rough. Fed her condition powders. Noticed she passed long worms. Gave her one drachm of tartar emetic for six mornings. Also fed three quarts of raw linseed oil in feed. Passed no worms since nor when she was getting powders. Coat slicker and looks some better, not fattening but very lively. Both horses have not worked and have been fed well on hay and sheep oats, also good gallon oil chop three times a day, and considerable boiled grain, with flax seed. What would you advise?"

Answer.—Worms are not always killed by the dose intended for them. Frequently this is because the bowels contain such a large mass of food that the drug is greatly diluted and is too weak to have any effect. You should prepare the horse by starving him. Give him nothing but bran mash for 24 hours, then absolutely

nothing for 12 hours more, and then give him the worm medicine. Santonine is the best remedy for this kind of worms. Give him half an ounce of this shaken up in a pint of milk. Wait a couple of hours and then give a pint of raw linseed oil with an ounce of turpentine. Shortly after this you can give him a bran mash, and later some hay. Put him on his usual feed the day following. If he passes many worms, you should repeat the treatment some two weeks

later, so as to remove any that have escaped the first dose, and the fresh hatch that will have hatched out from eggs left in the intestine. A course of tonic treatment is advisable afterwards to improve the appetite and restore health to the digestive organs. Give half an ounce of liquor ferri perchloridi in a pint of water three times a day.

2. This mare should undergo the worm treatment recommended for No. 1.

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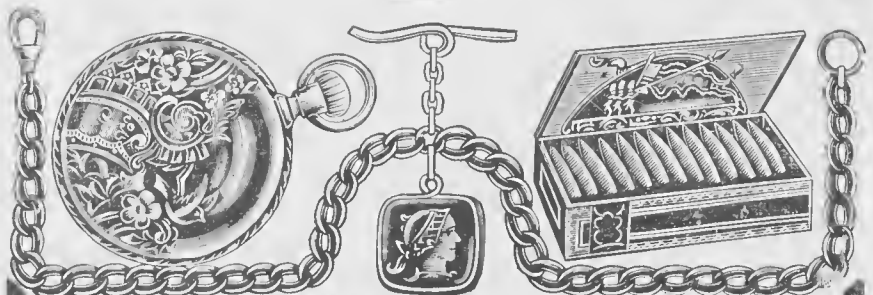
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### Scalding Trough.

S. F. Burgess, Seeburn, Man.: "I would like to get a scalding trough to scald pigs in. Would any of your readers kindly give dimensions, etc., in your next issue?"

### Home-Made Windmills.

Inquiries have been received from A. C. Watts, T. B. S. and J. R. C. re Bulletin on Home-Made Windmills. The Farmer has no stock of this bulletin on hand. Address a letter of inquiry to the Nebraska Experiment Station, Lincoln, Nebraska.

### Scrub Farm.

Subscriber, Thornhill, has a scrub farm to clear and would like to hear some one's experience on what kind of tackling or apparatus would be of use to pull the scrub, using a team of horses, with a lever, or is there any way of using a wheel working like a windless? Mr. Marks' apparatus may be all right, but it is away up in G for me."

Answer.—Write A. E. Brown, Hamiota, Man., for particulars about his land scrubbers. See his advt. in this issue.

### Land Regulations and Ranching.

Owner of 300 Head, Alta.: "Small Rancher can protect himself without waiting for any change in the land regulations in his favor by growing his own feed, as is done in all settled countries. Land is cheap enough at \$3 per acre when it will repay that seven-fold in one year in Brome grass, hay and seed. The days of trusting Providence for getting hay off the public lands is passing away, and it is better for the country that it is so. Our land regulations are all right as they are, but as the country is rapidly settling up people must work a little more than they used to."

### Cramming Machine.

Poultryman, Whitesand, Assa.: "In your issue of January 5th, 1900, you describe the process of fattening fowls by means of a cramming machine. Can you describe the principle of the machine and say if we could make one at home, or failing that, where one could be procured and the probable cost?"

Answer.—The cramming machine is made very much like the old-fashioned sausage stuffer. It contains a box with a plunger, with a lever worked by the foot and an outlet, to which is fastened a tube. One of these machines will be at work at the Manitoba Poultry Exhibition, Feb. 19-23, after which we can tell you more about it.

### Three Story Barn.

L. J. H., Ninette, Msn.: "Could you tell me through your columns how to make an upper floor of a barn water-tight. I wish to build a three-story barn and make the roof cover two floors for stock and one for feed. Cattle and hogs in bottom and horses over them."

Answer.—The floor should consist of two thicknesses of seasoned lumber, preferably tongued and grooved plank. The edges of the first course should be coated with tar as it is put down, then a good coating of tar and asphaltum put on and the second course laid, coating the edges and breaking joints.

### Value of the Veterinary Column.

J. M., Treherne, Man.: "I think your paper has been worth a good deal more than a dollar to me. I had a mare a good deal the same as one owned by A. W. Payn, Le Suer, which he was asking advice about in the Veterinary column of Dec. 20th issue. I followed the advice given about the shoeing, except that I had a felt put between the foot and the shoe instead of leather. I had her to town to-day with a load and she walked the best she has ever done since she went lame. Before shoeing that way she was so lame that you could scarcely get her out of the stable. Now I think she will soon be as well as ever."

### Couch Grass.

W. T. H., Pleasant Home: "I read an article in The Farmer of January 5th on eradicating couch grass. I have had some experience with it. I think the better way is to plow deep about the 20th of May, then sow the grain pretty thick. Barley or a good early oat is the best. Be sure and sow soon after plowing, so the grain will sprout quickly. The thick sowing will help to smother the grass. To summer fallow couch grass, I find that frequent plowing is the most successful way; the rains and the heat will rot the sod. That will also destroy the other weeds that may be in the land."

### Best Cow for Dairying.

Subscriber, Calgary, Alta.: "As I am going in for dairying, I would like to ask through the columns of your paper what cows you would advise me to get, that is, for summer butter-making and to get no other feed than the prairie grass. Would the Ayrshire or good Shorthorn be the best?"

Answer.—Under the conditions you think of following, the ordinary well-selected grade cow will give you best returns. Unless you are prepared to be more liberal in the way of feed, we doubt if it will pay you to purchase expensive animals. See correspondence from Whitewood in this column for effects of extra food.

### How About Formalin?

B. A. T., Minnedosa, Man.: "Last spring I read a number of articles and items in your paper as regards the use of formalin for treating oats to prevent smut, and I believe that in some parts a good deal of it was used. I would like to see through your columns the experience and opinions of some of those who have used the preparation. I believe there was much more smut in oats in Alberta this year than in Manitoba, and, if so, any of your subscribers out there who have used it would have a pretty good idea as to results."

Note.—The results of the tests with formalin at both Indian Head and Brandon Experimental Farms will be found in this issue and will repay close study. We would be pleased to hear from any of our readers in answer to the above communication.

### Field Roller.

Enquirer, Treberne: "I enclose you a circular of the McColl soil pulverizer and field roller and would like to know your opinion of it. I am told it is in use in the Portage district. There seems to be a diversity of opinion about its value among my neighbors. Perhaps you may know some one who has used it. Do you think this implement preferable to a drum roller for general purposes?"

Answer.—We know nothing about the roller in question, but from its description would judge it a valuable roller for Manitoba and for some purposes preferable to the drum roller. The manager of the Farmers' Trading Company, Portage la Prairie, who introduced these rollers into Manitoba, writes us that owing to the unusual amount of moisture last spring the season was unfavorable for a thorough trial of the roller, but opinions of those who have tried it coincide with his own that it is the most scientific roller yet introduced into Manitoba.

### Wind Power Not the Best.

One Who Has Tried, Oak Lake, Man.: "I saw a notice in The Farmer not long ago asking those who had them to give their opinions of windmills or horse-powers to run crushers, pulpers and straw-cutters. A windmill is all right if we were sure of wind. I would say wind power is cheaper and handier, but we can't depend on wind. Five weeks ago I had a wind-power put up on my granary, a 12-foot wheel for crushing. Since then there has only been about six days that we had enough wind to make the crusher run satisfactorily, and half the time not enough wind to start it at all. Now, it does not matter so much for crushing, as you can crush a lot while at it, providing you have room to store it, but if we had to depend on that power for pulping and cutting straw, our cattle would have been hungry often lately. If I wanted a power to run in connection with cattle and horse feeding, I would not get a windmill."

### Cheaper Salt.

A. E. Evans, Edwell, Alta.: "Recognizing the influence your paper has, could you not, and would it not be a good thing to agitate somewhat for a reduction in the price of salt throughout the N.W.T.? I think it would confer a more widespread benefit than the free distribution of pure-bred hulls by the C.P.R. The Government and C. P. R. might do something to this end. Think it would be to the interest of both and the people generally. No doubt cattle suffer and ailments are induced by the want of salt, as cows failing to breed, cattle less thrifty, and more liable to disease generally. The price which we have been paying, \$4.00 per barrel, prohibits most people from giving it to their stock. Think, if price was brought within reach of the people, that more stock would be shipped by the railway and people would be more prosperous."

### Cheesy Smelling Cream.

F. H., Hamiota, Man.: "What is the cause of my cream souring in two or three days and having a strong, cheesy smell and taste? One cow is 9 months in milk and giving about 1½ gals., milked once a day, and the other one 1½ month. They are fed on hay and sheaf oats; milk kept in cans in ice water and the cream is kept the same way."

Answer.—There would appear to be nothing wrong with your management. Test each cow's milk thoroughly and see if you can detect the trouble in the milk. If not, set each cow's milk by itself and keep the cream separate and see if the odor develops in each. If it does not, then the trouble may be in the feed or else is due to the presence of undesirable bacteria induced by uncleanliness in some part of the work. Change the feed for a week and see if at the end of that time the trouble continues. We think, if the cows are not to blame, that if the ice-water tank is cleaned out and thoroughly scalded, all the cans and pails that come in contact with the milk thoroughly scrubbed and scalded, or better still, steamed, and care taken to see that no yellow scum collects in the seams, the trouble will cease. See that clean water and ice from clean water is used in the tank.

### Live Fence Posts.

J. H. D., Rapid City, Man.: "What is your opinion of live fence posts? Would be pleased to have any of your many readers' experience of live fence posts. I am thinking of planting native poplar. Which do you think is the best of the following trees for live posts: Native poplar, Lombardy poplar, cottonwood or linden? Is cottonwood and linden one and the same tree? Which is the hardest for this part of the province? Fence to be barbed wire. I think The Farmer a very fine paper. It is full of useful information on every line of farming operations."

Answer.—Live fence posts take a few years to grow before they are fit to string wires on. It is possible to stick posts fresh from the bush and right end up in fairly moist ground, and get most of them to keep alive. Go to Brandon Experimental Farm and see the maple hedges there. By planting one or two-year-old maples in a row, a foot apart, on well-prepared ground a hedge can be grown in five years, along the top of which a barbed wire can be strung if the job is well managed. Lombardy poplar is no good, and cottonwoods must come from Northern Dakota or they are not hardy. See Patmore, the Brandon nurseryman, for cottonwoods. Linden is the basswood, and not common here. The maple is both cheap and hardy.

### Schirrous Cords.

P. J., Whitewater, Man.: "We have a horse that lately seems to have something wrong with his water. He paws, seems very uneasy and bites at his kidneys. When he was a colt he got strained across the kidneys, but has not shown any weakness in that quarter since. Also has a pair of small growths on the cords, due to a mistake in castrating. Please give remedy in your issue for February 5th."

Answer by our Veterinarian.—You should take your horse to a veterinary surgeon and have him examined. The "pair of growths" you refer to are probably what are known to the profession as schirrous cords and should be removed by operation before they become too large. They are probably the cause of his kidney trouble.

### Chronic Diarrhoea.

G. P. Pangborn, Virden, Man.: "I have a mare, 5 years old. I got her last fall in poor condition; weight about 1,400 pounds. Started to feed her hay and oats, one gallon three times a day, with half a gallon bran and two table-spoonfuls of condition powder. She started to scour badly. I left off feeding her bran, and still she scours. Have always fed her dry feed. Kindly tell me what to do to stop her from scouring. Eats well, and seems to be all right every way but this."

Answer by our Veterinarian.—Stop giving condition powders and give the following powder twice a day until the bowels are properly regulated: Powdered catechu, 2 drachms; prepared chalk, half an ounce; ginger, 1 drachm. This may be given in the feed if the mare will eat it. If not, shake it up in water and give from a bottle. Always water before feeding, and do not feed bran or straw of any kind.

### Fits in Young Pigs.

A Subscriber, Virden, Man.: "I see in your last issue, 'Subscriber Roland,' writes regarding fits in his pigs. Two years ago my pigs were attacked in the same way, and although I employed a veterinary, he could not tell me what ailed them, so I made an examination of one that died and found the small intestines knotted with worms; so I told the veterinary, which he would not believe till he saw for himself. He gave me something for the remaining four out of twenty, which cured them. Sixteen of them died all the same way, in a fit. Now, I think 'Subscriber' will find that that is what ails his pigs. I would have written to him direct had I known his address."

### Fits in Young Pigs.

Wm. Kitson, Burnside, Man.: "Kindly allow me to refer to 'Fits in young pigs' in your January 20th issue. These fits are simply the chopped harley, oats and shorts getting in their wind-pipe and lungs. Their trough is, no doubt, too high and too narrow to allow of their necks being held in a natural drinking position. At any rate, chop, etc., is apt to get through their nostrils when it is fed sloppy. Now, if your subscriber would simply give their feed in such a state that it will compel them to eat it instead of drinking it, giving them clean water to drink in another trough, I judge they will have no more fits. Just try this; then let us know through The Farmer whether it succeeds or not."

### Government Ought to Look Ahead.

J. Sterns, Crane Lake, Assa.: "I think we ought to have a bounty of one or two dollars on coyotes, which kill any amount of newly-horn calves, I believe fully ten per cent. of them, and up here we have no hounty and the half-breeds won't bother them because the country is so rough and hilly that they can get away from dogs. We lose more cattle by wolves than by snow or cold weather. I would like to say a word about the immigration policy of the Government. I can't see why they are in such a hurry to fill up our fine country with such immigrants as they are bringing in, or, in fact, in hurrying any immigrants into our country. Before many years our children's children will be going to other countries to find homes in just the same way as the American people are to-day coming to ours. Where will they go? There will be no homes for them here. The Government ought to look ahead."

### Changing Seed Grain.

F. H., Hamiota, Man.: "Is it necessary to change seed grain after it has been grown on a farm for a few years? Would like to have Mr. Bedford's opinion."

Answer.—A great deal can be written on this subject, and it can be answered by both yes and no. Briefly put, it is this: If you will carefully save your seed grain from the best land you have, hacksetting or after grass, then clean out a fourth or a third or more of the grain, by taking out all the small ones and all the over large soft ones, until you have an even sample of the best berries, then there will be no need to change seed. We know of farms on which there has been no change of seed for nearly fifteen years, yet crops were as good, if not better, than ever before, simply because care is taken to get the best seed by cleaning and secure vigor by growing on hacksetting or other good land. If a farmer is too careless to do this and will sow seed taken from any bin in the granary, just as it comes, then he had better buy his seed grain from some man who will take the trouble to select and clean it properly and pay him an extra price for doing what he could as well do himself.

We will be pleased to have the opinion of our numerous readers on this most important subject.

### A Loyal Municipality.

The reeve and council of Springfield municipality have sent The Farmer the following resolution for publication:—

"Moved by George Miller, seconded by Herbert Matthew, and unanimously carried:

That the following resolution be passed and that the Secretary-Treasurer be instructed to forward copies of the same to the several Municipal Corporations in the Province of Manitoba, requesting their hearty co-operation for the purpose of making the expression of public feeling unanimous.

That whereas the British Empire is involved in a war of justice and equal rights to all subjects and nationalities, and whereas it is in the interest of the British Empire and the world at large that the British arms should prevail, and whereas all who wish to cannot take arms on behalf of the Empire owing to the limited number of volunteers allowed to enlist from our Dominion of Canada;

Be it therefore resolved, that as we cannot send all the men who are willing to go, we are anxious to show our deep sympathy in the cause by expressing our wish to contribute towards the expenses of upholding the dignity of our British Empire."

This expression of loyalty to the mother country in her hour of need will find a ready echo in the heart of every reader. But talk is cheap and it costs but little to express our sympathy. What will prove our loyalty in a most decided way is to send in our contribution to the fund for the widows and orphans of those slain in battle. Money talks, sometimes, louder than words.

### Local Intelligence.

A reader some way west of Winnipeg, who shows considerable aptitude for the office of local correspondent of his town paper, sends us the following items. He has strayed into the wrong church—we have not space for all the funny things bachelor farmers may get off in their lonely winter hours. But he may be tempted to take a dozen extra copies of our valuable

paper to send round among admiring friends, and for that and other good reasons we find room for one or two of his best things.

Your readers will be wondering why some of your correspondents have dropped out lately. Well, I will try to apologize for two of them; the rest can answer for themselves. The H— correspondent got married two years ago and has both hands full now.

"A certain young man near R— thought he would take advantage of the snow before it would go off again; so he hitched his horse to his cutter one evening, but he was in such a hurry to take his girl for a drive he forgot to put bells on his horse. Well, we won't exactly say what happened, but we would advise any young man intending to take his best girl for a drive to put bells on his horses."

### Wolf Proof Fence.

McGregor, Banwell & Co., Windsor, Ontario, write: "In a recent issue of your valuable paper we noticed that you published an inquiry from one of your subscribers asking for information as to how to construct or secure a wire fence that would be wolf proof. With your permission we will submit a plan of such a fence; and while we cannot claim to have had actual experience with it in this regard, we believe that there will be no argument as to the likelihood of its effectiveness. Our plan would be to build a fence from barbed and plain wire combined, woven up with the Gem or some other fence machine suitable for that purpose. We would use a barbed wire for the two top strands of this fence, then a plain wire (about No. 9) alternating with a barbed wire till you have at least nine or ten strands, being careful to have a barbed for the bottom strand. If it is desirable, as it would be in most cases, to not have the sheep come into contact with the barbed wire more than necessary, the second, third and fourth strand from the bottom should be plain wire and not quite so wide apart as where alternated with a barbed wire. Then weave on cross-wires of No. 12 plain wire about 15 inches apart. Be sure that end posts are well set, anchored and braced. We would also advise the use of a fence-tightener or ratchet at one end of the fence. Hang fence close to the ground and anchor it every few feet, wiring to a brick or stone hurled in the ground."

### Outside Markets.

Thomas Daly, Strathcona, Alta.: "I took your paper from October last to New Year's as a trial. I find the information gained by reading it very valuable and sound sense. Your reports on grain markets are good, but might speak a little more about crop or grain producing countries and give us an idea of how we stand with them. Manitoba hurts herself by blowing too much about her crop. Grain buyers think they have lots of wheat to buy from and it make a dull market."

Answer.—Prices at Liverpool and London come nearest to what is wanted here, but there are so many varieties from all over the world sold there that the prices paid for them fail to give any reliable guide. It is pretty certain that the bulk of the wheat sold this season here has brought the growers more than it has been worth to the buyers. Take the latest issue to hand of the London (Eng.) Miller. The difference between Duluth and Manitoba hard is so small as to have no possible effect on farmers' market. Edmonton has shown a wider range lately than can be found anywhere else in the world. The mills there quoted 60c. when outside price ran from 48c. to 51c. in Western Assiniboia. But all the while farmers were being squeezed as low as 40c. for loads ostensibly the same in value. Sixpence a quarter at Liverpool is a microscopic difference to men at Edmonton who sell at 15c. or 20c. a bushel difference in the same week.

### Opinions on Cement Floors Wanted.

J. G., Newdale, Man.: "As I intend building new stables, I would like to hear through your columns from any farmers who have used Thorold cement for floors, giving information as to cost, and also as to how they are pleased with the floor. Can get all the coarse gravel I need free. Would like to know how it will compare as to cost with tamarac at \$13.00 per 1,000."

Answer.—If J. G. will look up pages 26, 94, 156, 179, 218, 249, 327, 366, 367, 401, 519 of the 1899 issues of this paper he will have all particulars as to the use of cement concrete. Much of this was written by Norval B. Hagar, the travelling agent of the Thorold cement. See his article in this issue. He attended Institute meetings in Manitoba last July and his address has also been published in the 1899 Report of the Farmers' Institutes, which may be obtained free from the Department of Agriculture at Winnipeg. For those who ever expect to need to use concrete this address is certainly well worth keeping on file, for the difference between good and bad results in this matter, as in everything else, consists largely in the difference between doing things the right way and forging ahead in the dark. As to estimating the cost, we note that Mr. Hagar says that "one barrel of hydraulic cement will lay, in floor, 60 square feet. Now, if you can find how much per bbl. the cement

will cost at Newdale it will be very easy to figure the matter out. We shall be pleased to have advices from those who have used cement for floors or buildings.

### Mutual Hail Insurance.

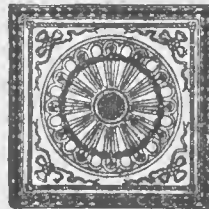
A Carberry subscriber desires to put in a good word for the Manitoba Farmers' Mutual Co. He says he paid to the Provincial Mutual in 1898, \$15 for a policy on \$360 worth of crop, or a rate of 4 1-6 per cent., and had it not been for the opposition of the new company he thinks the rate of the Provincial this year would have been larger than they did charge. He would like to hear through our columns from other supporters of the Provincial.

Note.—The Farmer believes that till some better plan is devised mutual insurance against losses by hail should be generally adopted by the farmers of the West. But we think the plan suggested by our correspondent of contrasting the charges made last year by two competing societies is not a proper way to find out which of them is best calculated to serve the public.

## Going to Re-Decorate?

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## Metallic Ceilings & Walls



They are both handsome and economical—outlast any other style of interior finish—are fire proof and sanitary—can be applied over plaster if necessary—and are made in a vast number of artistic designs which will suit any room of any building.

Write us—we'd like you to know all about them. If you want an estimate send outline showing the shape and measurements of your ceilings and walls.

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### PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TOURS

To California in Pullman Tourist Sleeping Cars

Via the Chicago Great Western to Kansas City and the Santa Fe route to Los Angeles and Southern California. The true winter route, avoiding cold weather and snow blockades. Commencing Monday, Oct. 23, and on every Monday following, one of these new Pullman Tourist Sleeping Cars will leave St. Paul at 8.10 a.m., via the Chicago Great Western, for Los Angeles and Southern California via Kansas City, and reaching Los Angeles the following Friday morning, thus avoiding all Sunday travel. These tours are personally conducted by an experienced railway official, who accompanies the train to its destination. The cars are well-equipped for a long journey, and are as comfortable as the Pullman Sleepers, while the price is only \$6.00 for a double berth—less than half the price in the Standard Sleepers. For full information inquire of any Chicago Great Western Agent, or address F. H. LORD, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, 113 Adams St., Chicago. WM. PHILLIPS, General Agent, 345 Main St., Winnipeg.

Last year we had a very tight aggregate loss from hail, and therefore but for the plunder carried away by the projectors of the "Manitoba" its members might have been assured at a lower rate than has ever been known. The main merit of a mutual is that it is able, if well and economically managed, to assure at a minimum of cost for working expenses. If only a few farmers insure the expense bill will be heavier in proportion to the amount of protection given, and if farmers will support both companies three times as much this year as they have ever yet done, the cost of management in proportion to the amount of insurance will be very much less. The actual loss can only be reckoned at the end of the season. If you want cheap hail insurance try to find which company you think best worthy of your support and get all you can to join along with you. If you never was bitten before, your turn may be close at hand. Prepare for it in time.

### How About Our Paris Exhibit?

J. W. Mitchell writes: "It is reported that one Archie Phillips, while serving as a member of the Twentieth Kansas regiment in the Philippines, wrote from Manila saying that he would give several years of his life for one of the good old apple pies his mother used to make, and that as a result of this he was presented, at a reception given him by his old friends and acquaintances upon his return home, with a monstrous apple pie five feet in diameter and two feet deep. This recalls to our memory another huge edible, what is known as the "mammoth cheese" or "Canadian mite," which was made at Perth, Ontario, and sent as one of the Canadian exhibits to the World's Fair, Chicago, in 1893. This cheese, which was encased in a heavy iron hoop, was about nine feet in diameter and six feet high, and weighed 22,000 lbs. Anything must, in order to attract special attention, be out of the ordinary—must be novel or stupendous, or give evidence of great skill and difficulty in its accomplishment. With a consciousness of this fact, Prof. Robertson, agricultural and dairy commissioner, conceived the idea of the mammoth cheese as a Canadian advertisement. The idea was a happy one. It had the desired effect of attracting the attention of thousands to our dairy exhibits, of leading them to examine the other exhibits—agricultural and mineral products, manufactures, etc.—from Canada; and it also led them to take an interest in and to inquire regarding the resources of our country and the inducements it offered immigrants. We trust that fully as novel, happy and successful a hit may be made at the coming Paris exhibition; that our exhibits may be even better, more varied, and more extensive than those at Chicago; and that we may be as successful in carrying off awards. If so, it will be the means of bringing to Canada a large amount of capital to develop our mining and other industries and a large number of the most desirable class of European immigrants to settle upon our lands and develop the agricultural resources of our country. Every Canadian should give all the assistance and encouragement he can to those who have the matter in hand."

### Wolf Bounty and Its Collection.

Rancher, Nanton, Alta.: "In your issue of September 5th I saw an article concerning the wolf bounty and the Stock Association, and as I am in the stock business I thought I would write you a few words on the subject. In this part the wolves have been rather troublesome and the coyotes are becoming the same. I have seen the coyotes worrying the calves, and, in fact, killing them. There is a bounty given for wolves, and if there was a price set on the coyotes, I think it would be a benefit. It is very unfair that only a part should bear the expense of exterminating the evil when every rancher in the district reaps the benefit. The only remedy I see is to have a tax of 5 or 10 cents per head collected on every animal sold for beef (which could be done by the buyers), and the money thus obtained handed over to the association. Of course, this proceeding would raise a great howl from the skinflints who refuse to join the association and thereby save a few dollars, but it seems to me to be the only way to deal with them. There are several men in this neighborhood owning from 100 to 400 head each, who, for the sake of saving a few extra dollars, refuse to join the association or help in any way, entirely ignoring the fact that they are receiving the good that others pay for. In regard to collecting the tax, I think the best method would be for the stock inspector to take a cheque from the shipper drawn in favor of the association."

Note.—We think every kind of vermin should be exterminated, and that every man benefitted by their destruction should be made to pay his fair share.

### School Lands and Local Taxation.

S. B., Hilton, Man.: "I think W. N. Crowell's idea in Dec. 20th Farmer a good one, that more farmers write asking or answering questions of interest to farmers."

"There is one thing that I would like a little light upon—that is the school lands. Now, there

is a section of school land, and a quarter or more of university land, in every school district in this part upon which no taxes are paid to help support the schools. These lands also cause lots of ill feeling among the farmers about the hay and wood on them. Now, upwards of a thousand acres of land in each district not paying taxes is too much of a good thing. Where the school taxes weigh so heavily on the people it would be much better for the country to throw these lands open for homesteading and help the schools, roads, towns and everything else with the increase of population. I see some people are advocating putting more land aside for higher education. I would suggest that the government reserve it somewhere in the neighborhood of the north pole, so that, if it did no good, it would do no harm, as it certainly would if reserved in a place that was likely to be settled."

Answer.—These untaxed lands have been made the occasion of an immense amount of discontent for the last 20 years. Looked at with both eyes and in broad daylight, the case looks to us somewhat in this light. Here is a section of perhaps as good land as is in the neighborhood that has furnished free pasture and occasionally in a quiet way some free hay land to the neighboring settlers. If some enterprising individuals have cleared off any wood that once grew upon it nobody can tell where it went, but it was not stolen by the man in the moon. At 5 cents an acre that land is worth \$2 a year as pasture, with its yield of hay and firewood thrown in free. Its proportion of local taxation would be \$15 to \$20, never any more than it is worth to the people round who get all it grows for nothing. But they shut one eye and squint all they can with the other and abuse the Legislature for not taxing the land itself. If the land all round is settled, the greater must be its value as free pasture to the settlers beside it. Has this view of the matter ever struck S. B., and if not, why not?

### Cement Concrete.

Norval B. Hagar, Allenburg, Ont.: "Would you allow me space in your valuable paper to say a few words on cement concrete for build-

ing purposes, as I have received quite a number of inquiries on this subject from the farmers of Manitoba lately, and I think I could not reach them better than by answering them through your valuable paper, for when I was in Manitoba last season I found it in nearly every progressive farmer's home. For the general information of your readers let me say I am a practical mason, and for the last few years I have followed the concrete business and the past season I spent in Manitoba doing concrete work in the interest of the estate of John Battle, manufacturer of the Thorold cement, of Thorold, Ont., and I built and gave instructions in starting cellar walls, floors, horse and cow stable floors, barns and concrete houses, with walls 26 and 30 feet high from bottom of cellar to plate. Now, I simply mention this to show that I am familiar with the use of concrete for all kinds of work."

"Now, I shall answer some of the most important questions I have received of late, such as: 1. Is cement concrete as frost proof as brick or stone? 2. Does it require as thick a wall as stone? 3. Is it more costly than brick or stone? 4. How do I manage in building the walls?"

"In answering the first question, I can say decidedly a cement concrete wall is far warmer than either brick or stone, and I shall give my reasons for saying so. It cannot be disputed that a hollow wall or an air space in a wall is more frost proof than a solid one, and the evaporation of the water in a concrete wall produces small air spaces all through it, hence it resists the cold better than a solid stone wall, and after the walls are completed they can be plastered on the outside with a thin coat of cement, which will keep out the water and the walls will be perfectly dry."

"In answer to the second point, it can be seen that for the reasons I have just stated as thick a wall as a stone one is not required. Here in Ontario I find that a wall for cellar one foot thick, first story 10 inches and second story 8 inches thick, is sufficient to keep out the frost for a dwelling house. I built several in Manitoba of the description I have just given, and by spring we can have their testimony as to whether the walls are of sufficient thickness for the climate of Manitoba."

# The War in South Africa.

Some of the most stirring events of this war have yet to take place. The Free Press will continue to make a specialty of full and accurate dispatches from the seat of operations.

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"The cost of a concrete house compared with stone or brick depends on the locality where it is built. If brick, stone and gravel are the same distance to draw, a cement concrete house is the cheapest. As a general rule I found good gravel in nearly every part of Manitoba that I was in while out there. In answer to the fourth question, it will take up too much of your paper, and in your next issue I shall give a full description of the mode of building a concrete wall."

#### Granary Weevil.

F. L., Roland: "Please examine the enclosed sample of wheat and tell me what the insect is that is working in it."

Answer.—The specimen sent us is undoubtedly the work of the granary weevil, common in old and dirty granaries. The United States Division of Entomology gives the following account of it: "The granary weevil has been known as an enemy to stored grain since the earliest times. Having become domesticated ages ago, it has long since lost the use of its wings and is strictly an indoor species. The mature weevil measures from an eighth to a sixth of an inch in length, is uniform shining chestnut brown in color and has the thorax sparsely and longitudinally punctured. The larva (grub.) is legless, white in color, very robust and fleshy. The pupa is also white, clear and transparent, exhibiting the general characters of the future beetle. The female punctures the grain with her snout and then inserts an egg, from which is hatched the larva that devours the mealy interior and undergoes its transformation within the hull. In wheat and other small cereals a single larva inhabits a grain, but a kernel of maize furnishes food for several individuals. The time required for the completion of the life cycle varies with the season and climate, and the number of generations annually produced is consequently dependent upon temperature. The midsummer period from egg to adult is about six weeks, and there may be, under favorable conditions, four or five broods in this latitude (Washington). And six, or even more, in the south. The adult weevils also feed upon the kernels, gnawing into them for food and shelter, and, being quite long-lived, probably do even more damage than their larva. This species is very prolific, egg-laying continuing over an extended period. It has been estimated that one pair will, in the course of a year, produce 6,000 descendants, and it will be seen that the progeny of a single pair are capable in a short time of causing considerable damage."

Dirty granaries are more liable to be affected than clean ones; and grain remaining in store a long time is also more liable to infection. Cleanliness is a very efficient safeguard, but should any insect get into the granary it can easily be destroyed by fumigating with bisulphate of carbon. This substance is very volatile and inflammable and is a poisonous substance to all forms of life when inhaled in sufficient quantities, but there is no danger in inhaling a small amount. The bisulphate is usually evaporated in small shallow dishes or pans, about a quarter of a pound in each. It volatilizes rapidly, and being heavier than air descends and permeates the mass of grain, killing all insects and other vermin present. If applied in a tight bin a pound to a pound and a half to the ton of grain is ample, in fact, one pound to 100 bushels has been found sufficient.

A bin can be made nearly air-tight by covering it with cloths, blankets or canvas. In more open bins a larger quantity must be used. In a granary or other building reasonably close, it is necessary to evaporate one pound of the bisulphate for every 1,000 feet of cubic space and more in more open buildings. Infested grain is generally subjected to the bisulphate for 24 hours, and can be exposed longer without hurting the milling qualities. If not exposed for more than 36 hours the germinating power will not be injured. The building or bin should then be aired and the grain stirred thoroughly. Be careful to keep all fire away from the vapor until entirely passed away. Not even a lighted cigar is allowed. The price of the bisulphate is about 40 cents a pound.

#### Killing Cough—Smut.

Hugh Roberts, Strathclair, Man.: "In your issue of 5th January the question is asked as to how to eradicate cough grass. I got rid of it by plowing good and deep. In this way I have entirely killed it. There is none on my place now, though a few years ago I had lots of it, and I could not get any grain to grow, as the grass choked it out. It was an eyesore to see large patches in the fields without any grain on them, but I have the upper hand now."

"We are grateful to science for finding a preventive for smut, for in the past it has caused us great loss. But scientists have been unable to satisfy me as to what causes it. We are told that if a crop is smutty, the smut falls to the ground and attacks the crop the following year. I have seen smutty oats shelled on the fields, and these fields were not sown, only plowed, the following year. The result would be there would not be a head of smut found on the field, and we always save that for seed. Is it not possible that poor seed is accountable for smut? The plant being weak, falls an easy prey to the disease. I always find smutty heads a week or ten days later in coming out than the good grain and the straw is generally shorter. By using bluestone I think we kill these weak grains, and

with the volunteer crop I think the exposure to the weather destroys their vitality."

Answer.—If our correspondent can tell the cause of wheat or oats or potatoes he will know the cause of smut. Smut is a plant just as truly as the wheat or the oats or the potato is a plant, and when its seed is sown the resultant plant will be grown. The wheat berry is the seed of the wheat plant, the smut ball contains millions of the seeds of the smut plant or the black powder on the heads of the grain is made up of innumerable seeds of the smut plant. But each seed is so small that it is invisible to the naked eye and has to be magnified many times to be seen. But, unlike wheat, it does not grow in the ground. It does not send out roots and gather food from the soil to support itself. It germinates when the wheat grain does, enters its soft mass and grows there. As the wheat stalk grows up in the air the smut plant pushes up its branches, too, inside the wheat plant. The smut plant has no true roots, but sucks its food from that prepared by the wheat plant. It is a parasite. It allows the poor wheat plant to go on growing, to send up a head and try to produce seed, but it has so drained the wheat plant of the store of food that it has laid by for forming seed that the poor wheat plant is unable to do so. Then the smut plant gathers up the store of food it has robbed the wheat plant of and uses it to form its seed, but it is smut not wheat, and no use to man—unless it is to teach him to bluestone, or formalin, his seed, and thus destroy this parasite. Prof. Bolley, of the North Dakota Experiment Station, says it is impossible to detect smut on seed grain with a magnifying glass because the smut is too small to be seen even by a very good microscope.

Poor seed is not accountable for smut. The lateness in ripening of smutty heads is no doubt due to the weakening effect of the presence of the smut plant sapping the life of the grain. Smut grains, or spores, as the correct scientific name is, falling on the ground in the fall will live over the winter, though the majority of them are killed, and will, if in contact with a grain of wheat, germinate in the spring and enter the wheat. But the greatest source of infection is from the smut on the seed grain itself. This is where the greatest danger lies. It is to kill these smut spores clinging to the wheat berry, and which are so small that the naked eye, aided by a good magnifying glass, cannot see them, that bluestone or formalin is used.

#### Creamery Returns at Whitewood.

A patron of Whitewood creamery says: "In your January 5th issue an interesting article by Mr. Mitchell, creamery superintendent, contains a few remarks which I think cast rather an unmerited slur on some creamery patrons. Mr. Mitchell says there is one defective point about the creamery business, and that is that the poor care our cows receive during winter, spring and fall accounts for the light make at each end and the shortness of the season. That statement is quite misleading as far as the Whitewood creamery is concerned, as I know that the cows, with a few exceptions, are milking ten months in the year, and many of them are producing from 250 to 300 pounds of butter. Also a great many cows are acquainted with such luxuries as Brome grass aftermath in the fall, green sheaf oats, mangels, etc., especially last fall. The reason for the light creamery output is that so many patrons are dissatisfied with the way the tests are made that they only send cream during the hot months when butter is cheap at the stores. A route runs past my door, collecting each week the cream from six patrons, say about 45 cows. The same man passes within half a mile of a dozen other farmers milking some 75 cows, most of whom have tried sending cream to the creamery, but finding they were losing too much, they soon dropped out. I only milk a few cows, and would have preferred sending all my cream to the factory, but perhaps the following figures will explain why I had to quit: I had two long cream cans holding some 17 inches of cream. Before the creamery started in the spring I used to make 27 and 28 lbs. of butter from the two full cans. First delivery to cream wagon was 17 inches, making 28 lbs.; second delivery, 16 8-10 inches, making 25 1/2 lbs.; third delivery, 17 1/2 inches, making 21 4-10 lbs.; fourth delivery, 16 8 inches, making, 13 8-10 lbs.; fifth delivery, 16 5 inches, making 16 lbs.; sixth delivery, 17 inches, making 16 8-10 lbs.; eighth delivery, 16 5 inches, making 25 lbs. A note to the maker, asking the reason of so much variation, brought a reply that I should pay more attention to the running of my separator. I have churned about the same amount of cream some 15 to 20 times since, and have never made less than 24 lbs., even with winter cream. A patron milking eight cows told me that he figured he had lost \$100 through staying by the creamery all summer. There have been so many complaints that it would seem the best way in the interest of the creameries to have some of them investigated and try to find out why there are such curious variations in the tests. The cows are all right, and few of them have suffered from lack of good feed this last fall. I would like The Farmer to advise any who think they are not getting as much butter from the feed given as they ought, to buy a straw cutter. I invested in one two months back and have found that the cows give more milk if the grain or meal is mixed with cut hay and wetted. They are fat and as frisky as calves. The only objection is the labor involved, but that is offset by the increased flow and the ease with which it is procured."

Note.—It is indeed gratifying to find that farmers around Whitewood are so far advanced in their feeding practice. We fear, however, that cows getting Brome grass aftermaths, sheaf oats and mangels, and, therefore, able to make 250 to 300 lbs. of butter per year, are a rare thing anywhere in the West. We hope we are wrong in this. We would like to hear from some of those patrons who are making so much butter, giving particulars of their management and how they succeed in accomplishing these results. We feel sure they will be greatly appreciated by our readers.

We are sorry to note, though, the spirit of dissatisfaction that seems spreading amongst the patrons of the creamery. It is a serious complaint, and is not confined to one creamery in the West, nor is it confined to our western creameries, but is common wherever there is a creamery. Our correspondent blames the creamery manager—of course, our worthy correspondent is not to blame. Oh, no, nor any other farmer either—it's always the creamery manager. Of course, some people believe he is put there by the dairying service for the special purpose of cheating farmers. We have known cases where he was to blame, because a creamery manager is not infallible any more than his patrons are. But, does any patron think that Prof. Robertson, in his efforts to build up the dairy industry, would start a system which has to be bolstered up with continuous fraud? Of course not. Yet with the slightest variation in the tests the howl goes up, "We're being robbed." Fortwith a "test" is made and the cream withdrawn from the factory. Now, where's the trouble? It arises either with the patron, the cream gatherer or the buttermaker.

The buttermaker takes the samples as they are brought to him by the cream gatherer and churns them in the oil test churn, which treats all samples alike. As the manager is paid a salary there is nothing to be gained by him in trying to make the tests read low.

The cream gatherer is sometimes to blame. The cream should be thoroughly stirred before the sample is taken. The richer the cream in butter fat, as separator cream, the more carefully should the sample be taken, because a little unevenness in the sample will make a big change in the reading. Patrons should see that their cream is well stirred, or what is better, poured several times to insure thorough mixing, before a sample is taken. From personal experience with creamery work the writer is convinced that much of the trouble arises from improper sampling. Duplicate tests would help things, especially if the cream were stirred between taking the samples.

Then, the patron is not always free from blame. The greatest source of error with him is in the accuracy of the "test" he makes as a check in the supposed crookedness of the creamery. There is too much guess work about it as often conducted, and the creamery consequently unjustly condemned. Of course, the farmer thinks he is making a fair test. We have had one side of this statement, but there is another. We would like to hear it, too.

What may be amiss with our correspondent's relations with the creamery he is not out on the question of profitable feeding, and we cannot hear too much about the methods followed by such front rank men. Fuller particulars will be welcomed by hundreds of our readers.

#### What is Thought of The Farmer.

J. S. Doney, Thornhill, Man., Jan. 21, 1900:—"The Farmer is good enough for me."

Albert E. Yeo, Cypress River, Man., Jan. 18, 1900:—"The Farmer is a valuable friend and a welcome guest."

Kenneth Mackenzie, Carberry, Man., Jan. 17, 1900:—"Enclosed find \$1 for your very helpful paper for 1900."

Chas. McLean, Minnedosa, Man., Jan. 17, 1900:—"I am well pleased with The Nor'-West Farmer, and think it a grand paper."

Elmer Shaw, Kenlis, Assa., Jan. 15, 1900:—"I have had a large number of letters re Brome seed since placing my advt. in The Farmer."

R. M. Angus, Angus Ridge, Alta., Jan. 5, 1900:—"I have been a subscriber to The Farmer for a number of years and highly appreciate its value, and note with pleasure its progress and advancement. I highly recommend its pages to farmers and stockmen. Valuable experiments and advice can be had by perusing its columns."

H. Talmay, Prosperity, Assa., Jan. 31st, 1900:—"Some time ago I wrote to your Veterinary Column about a lame colt and received a reply in the Dec. 5th issue of The Nor'-West Farmer. I am much obliged to you for the advice, and am very glad to say the mare's foot is well again. We like The Farmer very much, especially now it is published twice a month. We were very pleased with the picture of Lord Roberts."

C. S. Clendenen, secretary Lansdowne Farmers' Institute, Bradwardine, Man., Jan. 26, 1900, writes: "It would make you vain if you heard the many words of praise The Nor'-West Farmer gets from the members of the institute, and the best of all it deserves all the praise it gets. You are giving us an instructive, bright, interesting farm journal, that fills our need for such a paper, and you present it to us in such a neat attractive dress and form that it is a pleasure to handle and read it. Lansdowne Institute wishes you every success."



## Market Review.

Winnipeg, Feb. 5, 1900.

Wholesale business has been fairly good, and orders for spring goods better than was anticipated at one time. Owing to the mild winter, country storekeepers have been compelled to carry over a large share of their heavy winter goods. This ties up capital, and it was expected that orders for spring goods would be light in consequence. The improved sleighing two weeks ago helped general business throughout the country. The cold snap the beginning of last week checked it, but the fine weather in the end of the week saw everything in full swing again. Wheat deliveries are light. Dry goods will show an advance in price this summer and retail merchants are disposed to hold on to their stocks of heavy goods rather than sacrifice them. Work is now being pushed in the lumber camps, but it will be impossible to make up for lost time. Canadian brooms have been advanced 20 per cent in price by manufacturers. Bank clearings show an increase last week over the corresponding week of last year.

### Wheat.

A fortnight ago there came on a little spurt in prices, which, with variations, has been maintained since. We then quoted Fort William at 64c.; to-day it stands at 65c. May wheat, Chicago, 68c. Even at that price holders are hopeful for a still further advance. No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern are 2c. below No. 1 hard. These figures are still very low for this season of the year. The other day Chicago Markets commented as follows on the situation:—

"Prices of wheat are 11c. per bushel lower than the average price in January for the last five years, and 9c. below the average for the last ten years during January. Available stocks, while larger than a year ago, are with but two exceptions smaller than for the last seven years. Reserve supplies in farmers' hands January 1 in America are estimated by reliable authorities at 50,000,000 bushels less than a year ago. European stocks and the amount of wheat afloat to Europe are below an average for recent years. Yet in the face of these facts, the gang of conspirators constituting the elevator trust have forced the market steadily downward; this week's prices being the lowest on the crop; nearly 6c. lower than the lowest prices of last January and 26c. lower than for two years."

### Oats

Oats are now worth 32c. on track at Winnipeg, and 26c. at local points. There seems little disposition to sell even at these rates, and deliveries are very limited. Some people allege that the total stock of the country has been over-estimated and prices may go higher.

### Barley.

Prices are looking up. Deliveries very limited. Feed sorts are worth 30c. at Winnipeg; malting grades, 2c. better.

### Flax.

Is now quoted at \$1.25 for farmers' loads at country points. Seed will be pretty high in spring. Our total crop area does not come up to that of one county in Dakota.

### Flour and Millfeed.

Markets very quiet all through. Ogilvies quote as follows: Hungarian, \$1.75; Glenora, \$1.65; Manitoba, \$1.40; Imperial, \$1.10; rolled oats, \$1.95; bran, in bulk, \$10.50; shorts, in bulk, \$11.50.

### Horses.

Market is quiet. Good work horses bring from \$100 to \$140.

### Cattle.

Market is quiet. No movement has been made as yet. Buyers will soon be out for stockers. No quotations have been given so far, but it is expected that they will be a little higher than they were last year. Fat cattle are quoted at 3c. to 3c. off the cars at Winnipeg. Choice butchers' cattle will run up to 4c. Dressed beef, 5c. to 6c.; frozen beef, 5c. to 5c.; veal, 7c. to 8c. Milch cows still keep in good demand.

### Sheep.

No change in price since last issue, and no movement reported; 4c. for sheep and 4c. to 5c. for lambs. Dressed mutton, 8c. to 9c.

### Hogs.

Demand is good, but few offering. Choice bacon hogs bring 4c. off cars at Winnipeg; second grades, 4c.; dressed pork, 5c. to 6c.

### Butter and Cheese.

Creamery Butter—The local demand for creamery butter in Canada is almost equal to the foreign demand, and prices keep steady. Although the English market has receded a little. Some American butter is being sent back to New York, owing to better prices there. Arrivals of Australian butter on the English market have been liberal. Creamery prices at Montreal are 22c. to 22c. Nothing is being done here. Choice creamery is worth 24c.

Dairy Butter.—Stocks of good butter are pretty well cleaned up and receipts are light. Good first-class grades, in fact anything good enough for table use, sell readily. Best rolls and 1-lb. bricks bring 20c. to 21c. Tubs and large rolls, 18c. to 20c. Second grades bring from 14c. to 16c. Cheese.—No change since last report, 1c. to 14c.

## Poultry and Eggs.

Poultry.—The market continues quiet, with no change in prices. Dealers are paying 11c. for turkeys, 9c. for ducks, geese and chickens.

Eggs.—Dealers are paying 22c. to 23c. for Manitoba offerings. Strictly fresh gathered eggs run up to 35c. and 40c. Held stock bring 18c. to 20c.

## Hides.

Butchers' hides are 3c. easier than at last report, No. 1 being worth 7c. Frozen hides sell on a basis of 7c. to 7c. with 5 lbs. off.

## February Conventions.

The following is a summary of the programmes which have come to hand:—

### Manitoba Dairy Association.

Feb. 19, 8 p. m.—Directors' meeting.

Feb. 20, 9 a. m.—Business session.

1.30 p.m.—Election of officers; "Buttermaking on the Farm," by R. G. S. Simpson; "Outlook of Cheese Making in Eastern Manitoba," by D. W. Shunk; "Care of Milk for Butter and Cheese Making," by Mrs. Yull; School of Methods, "How to Extend the Milking Period of Our Cows," discussion led by G. Harcourt, of The Nor'-West Farmer, and others; "More Profitable Dairying," by J. W. Mitchell.

8 p.m.—"Best Methods of Construction for Ice Houses and Cold Storage for Creameries," by C. A. Murray; "Profits of Winter Dairying," by Jos. Yull; "The Manufacture of Butter for Immediate Market and for Cold Storage," and "Increasing the Profits from Our Dairies," by C. Marker.

### Sheep and Swine Breeders' Association.

Wed., Feb., 21, at 9.30 a. m.—Business session. 1.30 p. m.—Practical Demonstrations of "What the Packer Wants." Specimens of dressed hogs will be exhibited and points explained by C. H. Johnston, foreman of J. Y. Griffin's packing house. "Swine Feeding," by J. H. Grisdale, Agriculturist, Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa. "Swine Breeding," by Jos. Yull, Carleton Place. "Mistakes in Breeding," by F. W. Hodson, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner. If time permits, James Bray, Longburn, will read a paper on "Swine Breeding and Feeding for Profit on a Wheat Farm."

8 p. m., Joint session, principal speakers being the Ministers of Agriculture for Manitoba and the Territories; C. A. Murray, Provincial Dairy Superintendent, on "The Relative Importance of Dairying in Agriculture," Prof. W. A. Henry, Madison, Wis., on "Agricultural Education," and Mrs. Jos. Yull, on "The Place of Women in Dairying."

## Pure Bred Cattle Breeders' Association.

Thurs., Feb. 22, 9.30 a. m.—Business session.

1.30 p. m.—"Free Transportation of Pure Bred Stock," by A. Graham, Pomeroy. Discussion on free distribution of sires by C. P. R. "Points of a Dairy Cow," by Jos. Yull. "Breeding for a Purpose," by Jas. Glennie. If time permits, the following topics will be taken up: "My Experience with Native Grasses," by K. McIvor; "Cement Floors," by J. Renton; "Corn in Manitoba," by D. Munro; "Parasites of Domestic Animals," by M. Young, V. S.

8 p.m., Joint session—Address, J. H. Grisdale. "Requirements of the Bacon Trade," by F. W. Hodson; "An Elementary Lesson on Feeding Stuff," Prof. Henry; "Stable Hygiene," by J. G. Rutherford, M. P.

## The Little Brown Dog.

Little brown dog with the meek brown eyes, Tell me the boon that most you prize.

Would a juicy bone meet your heart's desire?

Or a cozy rug by a blazing fire?  
Or a sudden race with a truant cat?  
Or a gentle word, or a friendly pat?  
Is the worn-out ball you have always near  
The dearest of all the things held dear?  
Or is the home you left behind  
The dream of bliss to your dogish mind?  
But the little brown dog just shook his head  
As if "None of these are best," he said.

A boy's clear whistle came from the street,  
There's a wag of the tail, and a twinkle of feet,  
And the little brown dog did not even say  
"Excuse me, ma'am," as he scampered away,  
But I'm sure as can be his greatest joy  
Is just to trot behind that boy.

—May Ellis Nichols, in Wide Awake.

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### Poultry Exhibition.

The prize list for the Manitoba Poultry Association's annual exhibition, to be held in Winnipeg from Feb. 19 to 23, is out and has been mailed. In all about \$1,500 is being offered in prizes. There is a good big list of special prizes, cups, and the two handsome gold watches offered by The Nor'-West Farmer. A suitable building has been obtained on Main St., centrally situated. Applications from outside points indicate that there will be a big show, the biggest ever held by the association. Mr. and Mrs. Yuill, of Carleton Place, will have present a cramping machine, will fatten a coop of chickens with it, then kill and dress them in the most approved manner. They will also give practical addresses on poultry topics. A two session convention is being arranged for. At one session the new constitution, printed in these columns last issue, will come up for discussion and the rest of the time will be devoted to addresses and discussions on poultry topics. Every one interested in poultry should attend. If you haven't got a prize list, address the secretary, C. H. Wise, 759 Elgin Ave., Winnipeg.

### Preparing Our Exhibits.

For the poultry fancier this is the busiest time of the year, separating his young stock and paying special attention to those birds which he anticipates to be the prize winners at the coming show, says W. C. Johnson, in the Ohio Poultry Journal.

At this time of the year the males should be separated from the females. This plan of separation should not be neglected, as it is worth a great deal to the physical condition of the birds. It gives them plenty of time to rest up, and when we mate our breeding pens in the spring we will have better results with our eggs.

When they are divided in this way we should pay strict attention to the young male birds, as they are liable to quarrel among themselves to see who shall become boss, and in this manner many promising birds have been ruined. It is a good plan, where there is room, to pen each male bird separately, and thus the good can be selected from the poor ones. Our young stock should be culled and the good ones placed in a separate pen, so as to get them in condition for the coming shows.

### FATTENING OUR BIRDS.

After we have chosen our best birds we should feed them well, so as to get them up to the proper weight and also for outward appearance. If they are bantams it is the other way, and frequently foolish breeders starve them to get to the weight required. This is as bad as breeding them late to get small ones, and it will do more harm physically than good. If you breed bantams and you cannot get them down to the correct weight never starve them to bring them there.

The show birds should all be provided with clean coops and fed three good meals each day. There are many different methods used for fattening, but I think the best that can be fed is buckwheat. This not only fattens, but also adds to the appearance of the bird, as it gives a

rich and glossy effect to the color of the feathers. Boiled rice is also excellent, but this should not be fed more than once a day, with a little red pepper added once a week. We should also provide them with plenty of sweet milk and grit.

This method is all right for the large breeds, but not for the bantam fancier, as he does not desire to fatten his birds, but to reduce their weight, and to do so he often starves them. As I said before, this is a foolish plan. Although we do not want to fatten them, we can give them their regular amount of feed. If you cannot get your bantams small enough by breeding them early, do not attempt to accomplish your object by breeding late, so as to run into the winter months. This may work with the short-legged varieties, but in the Game Bantam it is a great injury. By breeding the Game Bantams late to stunt their growth we injure their station, and as this is one of the most essential points, the judge can cut more than on a few ounces overweight. The bantams should have the same attention paid to them as to their larger cousins in care and feeding, but probably not so much to the latter, especially during show time.

### WASHING.

Very often the careless breeder waits until about a week previous to the show before he makes any attempt to prepare his exhibits, but such a breeder is of short duration in the poultry world. The breeder that takes a pride in his flock usually begins to prepare his birds at least six weeks previous to the event.

About a week before the show we should wash them thoroughly with a little warm water and castile soap. The best time for washing is in the morning, as the birds then have plenty of time to dry during the day.

After they have received their bath they should be kept in a warm room until thoroughly dry, as otherwise they are liable to take cold, and this often results seriously. The floor should be well covered with clean litter, and a little wheat scattered in it, so as to keep them busy. If the litter is kept clean it will give a polish to their legs and aid them in this respect.

Many fanciers do not wash their birds until about a day previous to the show, but I think this does not give them ample time in which to recuperate their plumage, as their feathers are roughed more or less by washing. Probably they are to be shipped some distance, and they very often take cold after they have been removed from their pens when washed so late.

### DUBBING FOR EXHIBITION.

The Game breeder requires a little more time to prepare his birds for exhibition. He has to see that his birds are dubbed neatly, and this can be obtained best by the means of a pair of scissors, as they are less liable to leave a rough edge, although a razor, or other instrument, is often used.

After dubbing we should place cobwebs on the wound, as they coagulate the blood, but if the fowls are dubbed in cold weather the flow of blood is very little. Some prefer to have the comb trimmed close, while others do not, but I would prefer the former, as it gives a more snake-like appearance to the shape of the head.

### FINAL PREPARATIONS.

Many breeders are interested a great deal in their birds just about show time, but during the rest of the year their interest lags, and they now enter the show room expecting to get high scores, but quite frequently they miss their mark.

Well-bred birds have to receive strict



### EGGS.

LIGHT BRAHMA } per setting 1.50  
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Muffed Tumbler Pigeons for sale.

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I have fine young stock of all varieties, from prize breeders. Prices right.

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Have a few extra choice cockerels of both varieties to spare yet. No more females for sale.

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S.C. WHITE LEGHORNS . . . \$2 and \$1 setting  
S.C. BLACK ENGLISH ORPINGTONS . . . \$3  
BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS . . . \$1

Orders booked at once. Delivery after 15th April. NOTE.—Our Single Comb White Leghorn pens are better than ever. Only a limited quantity of Orpington eggs to spare. Order at once if you want to secure a setting.

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HEADQUARTERS FOR THOROUGHbred POULTRY.

A grand lot of cockerels for sale.

Barred Plymouth Rocks,  
Single & Rose-comb White Leghorns,  
White Wyandottes, Black Spanish.

If you want a cockerel to improve your stock, I can supply you birds bred for utility as well as points.

Address—

GEORGE WOOD,  
Louise Bridge P.O., Winnipeg, Man.

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LOUISE BRIDGE P.O., WINNIPEG, MAN.

A few pair of young Pekin Ducks from imported and prize-winning stock, at \$4.00 per pair.

Fifty pair of my noted strain half wild Bronze Turkeys. Am breeding from two of as fine yards as there are in Manitoba.

I am sole agent for Manitoba and N.W.T. for GEO. ERTLE & CO.'S VICTOR INCUBATORS and BROODERS. These machines have copper tanks, moisture pans, thermometers, egg testers, egg turners, regulators and lamps. Everything is complete, and every machine goes out with a guarantee that it will do as represented or money will be refunded. Send for 1899 Circular.

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### WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS !!

If you want good birds, write for prices to

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LARGE GREEN BONE-CUTTER for sale. Enquire at 71 Albert St., Winnipeg, Man.

attention or they are not long worthy of their name.

The exhibition coops may need some repairs, and they ought to have a fresh coat of paint.

Probably a few remarks with reference to the style of coops may be of some assistance to the novice.

The front of the coop should be of wooden bars or wire netting. I prefer the former, as it shows up the interior of the coop better. The bottom should be about one inch deep, as this will prevent any of the litter being scratched out.

The ways of supplying the fowls with water and feed depend entirely upon the choice of the fancier.

The coop should be painted the best color suitable to the color of the exhibits.

After we have our coops prepared we should put the birds in them several times so that they may become accustomed to their new quarters. If we have petted our birds at home they will behave well while away from home, but if they are wild and fly around when the judge attempts to pick them up it will certainly mean a lower score.

The birds should now be in the pink of condition, and we should wash their legs and heads with a little warm water and apply a little sweet oil to these parts, and this should be done just before the judge comes to examine them, as it will be the means of obtaining a higher score, for little things count in the show room.

The judge now pronounces the score, and the breeder feels rewarded for his year's work, for those are the birds which he expected to be the prize winners, and over which he labored so faithfully.

### Some Good Beginnings.

Some of the Neepawa farmers are going into quite large flocks of feathered stock. Messrs. Andrews & Hingley, two miles southeast of the town, have put up the past season a new frame poultry-house, 62x16 ft. They used in its walls three-ply of matched lumber and two layers of paper. All underground parts are built of cedar. It is provided with an incubator room, 16x14 ft. and a feed and boiler room. The past season they used an incubator and had fairly good success, especially with the earlier hatchings. About 300 chicks were hatched and 70 cockerels were put up to fatten. They have been keeping some very fine Golden Wyandottes, some Barred and White Rocks, some Light Brahmas and a few Anconas. Although last spring was their first in which to go into the business to any extent, they are well pleased and propose to extend operations the coming season.

Close at hand Stephen Benson has a poultry-house, 16x46, and keeps B. P. Rocks, geese and Bronze turkeys. We believe his poultry house is well laid out, and that he makes poultry pay well on his farm.

W. Walker, of Glendale, a few miles to the southwest, has also a poultry-house 14x100 ft., with a 12x14 incubator room, and keeps a good sized stock of fowl. We hope at some later time to be able to visit these places and to let our readers know more fully how these men manage their poultry business.

Joseph Riddle, of Neepawa, owns a Bronze gobbler which weighs 48 lbs.

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—THE SEVENTH ANNUAL—

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**Feb. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 1900**

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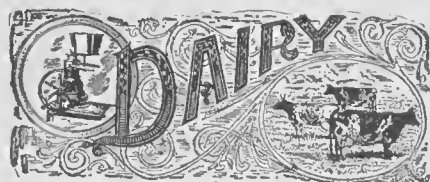
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## Newdale's New Creamery.

As Newdale has stood well to the front in the ranks of the successful dairy districts of the west, a few notes from one of our staff in regard to the new creamery building erected there the past season will be of interest to our readers.

The new building, which is situated on a rising piece of ground about a quarter of a mile to the north-east of the town, and in full view of the railway, is not as

the work-room, as well as for washing ice on the smashing floor above the cold storage room. The cold storage room is well situated in the building and will be equipped with a system of eight drying and freezing drums and the ordinary drip trough. Connecting it and the work-room there is a receiving room with one drum. The storage room will be large enough to hold 40,000 lbs. of butter easily. At the east end is a good sized room for the storage of cream cans, etc., which, though not found in many of our western creameries, will no doubt be quite a convenience. A loft over the making room also provides considerable storage room. The work-room is provided with arrangements for heating with stove if necessary, and is furnished with one or two handy cupboards in the partition. The well is situated under the east wall, and one of the hitherto heavy expenses in operating—viz., hauling water—will thus be elim-

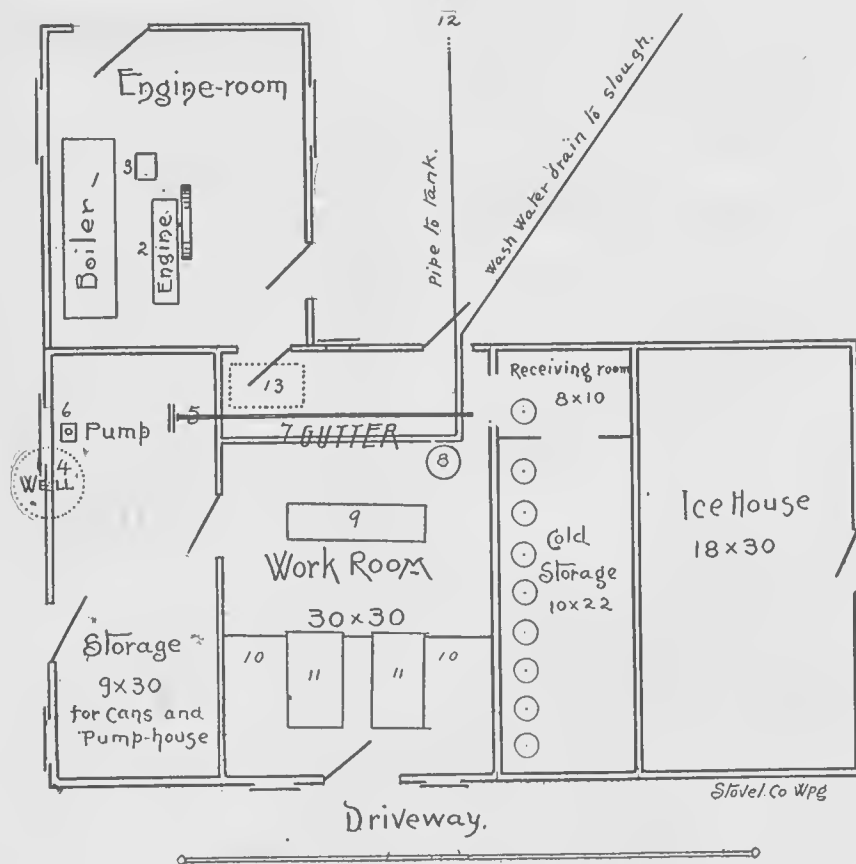
to figure as an authority on dairying nor do I think there is any necessity for me to do so, if I was capable, for you are all, or nearly all, readers of The Nor'-West Farmer and have, doubtless, read many columns on the subject. But there are one or two points connected with dairying which I have not read much about and on which I would like to say a little. I find that every year more people are coming round to the idea that to keep on growing wheat profitably we must keep live stock of some kind, and use the manure. People, who five or ten years ago laughed at the idea that our land would play out, are beginning to think there is something in it. Every year we hear more of summer fallows growing heavy crops of straw, which give a disappointing yield when threshed, and there is more enquiry about seeding down and pasturing the land instead of fallowing.

"Granting then that we have to keep cattle in order to keep our land in good order for growing wheat, the next question is, how are we to make the most out of our cattle? We have our choice between letting the calves run with the cows, getting nothing from the cow but the calf, or milking the cow and raising the calf by hand. I have tried the first plan and I must say I don't think there is very much in it, even at the high prices that are now being paid for yearlings. When calves run with the cows there seems to be a good deal more trouble in getting them in calf than when they are milked, and the cow always comes in to the stable at the beginning of the winter in a great deal poorer condition. Supposing an average calf to be worth \$15 at a year old, when you have paid for wintering your calf, paid for bull service and made a deduction for cows not in calf, I think you will find that a herd of cows will not produce more than \$10 per head per annum. To put a thin cow through the winter and get her into condition for raising another calf will cost nearly \$10, so where is the profit?

"On the other hand I contend that nearly as good a calf can be raised by hand by feeding a little ground flax-seed in the skim milk and some oat chop and a good sum realized for butter as well. My cows averaged about \$25 each this last year for butter, besides the calves, and I think that is very good pay for the trouble of milking them, which is really the only extra cost there is over the other plan. The milk was separated and the cream sent to the Brandon creamery, which I like a good deal better than making the butter at home. We often read of cows making a great deal more than that, but these were just ordinary Shorthorn grades—some good and some not very good.

"The cream separator is a machine that will soon pay for itself. Last winter I stopped using it when the cows got low in milk, thinking it was not worth bothering with. The milk was then set in deep cans and stood out in the cold air till it began to freeze, then taken in. Three cream cans were filled, which when churned turned out about 28 lbs. of butter. This was continued for about three months and then we began to use the separator again. It took about the same time to fill the cream cans, but when we came to churn the cream we got 44 lbs. of butter out of it instead of 28 lbs. This may be an extreme case, as tests show that when the cows are fresh calved and the deep cans set in ice water there is not so very much difference, but take the year round I believe a great deal better results will be had by using the separator.

"As to dealing with the R. A. Lister Co.'s creamery at Brandon, I must say we were well satisfied; the price received was two or three cents higher every month than we could have got at the stores for the butter and we got the cash



Plan of the new Creamery at Newdale.

1. Boiler, 14 horse; 2. Engine, 6 horse; 3. Oil Test Churn; 4. Well, 8 ft. wide, 26 ft. deep; 5. Main Shaft; 6. Steam Pump; 7. Gutter; 8. Mason Butter Worker; 9. Churn; 10. Elevated Floor for Cream Vats; 11. 2 Cream Vats; 12. Pipe to Butter-milk Tank which is 6 ft. from ground; 13. Cold Water Vat up at ceiling; O. Drums for ice.

yet quite completed internally, although it was used for the last month of the 1899 make. When finished it will certainly be a creamery of which the people of Newdale need not be ashamed. The foundation is of stonework and the whole building is well and substantially built. The walls are of matched pine, both outside and in, with the exception of the cold storage compartments, which will be lined with seasoned spruce.

The main building is 30x70 ft., extending east and west and is joined on the south side with a boiler and engine house, 15x18 ft. These dimensions, as may easily be seen, allow ample space for the different departments of the business. The floor of the workroom is raised about two feet on the side where the vats are, and the cream is run into the churns with piping. A large elevated cold water tank is situated in the south-east corner of the work-room and a perfect system of pipes carries water to wherever wanted in

inated. When fully finished and equipped the total cost will likely aggregate a little over \$2,500. Starting in 1895, the creamery business at Newdale has certainly been a great boon to the community at large, and it is only right to say that the persistent efforts of Secretary Fanning and the various other officers deserve honor amongst the patrons.

## The Dairy Cow on a Wheat Farm?

At a recent meeting of the Virden Farmers' Institute, C. E. Ivens gave a statement of his experience with fair ordinary farm cows and the results of different ways of managing them, bringing out the advantage of milking and sending the cream to a good creamery in preference to the apparently much easier plan of letting the calf run with its dam. In substance Mr. Ivens said: "I do not profess



at the end of every month instead of taking it in trade. We also got pay for as much butter as we could have made at home, this we know by keeping a can occasionally to churn for home use."

A good many questions were asked about shipping the cream, etc., and a lively discussion took place on feeding and breeding cows. A general complaint was that Manitoba Shorthorn breeders had allowed all calves to suckle until the milking qualities of the cows were gone and it was hard to get a Shorthorn bull to sire a milking heifer. John Buck said that he had good results by keeping calves in the stable and letting them suck twice a day. By this means a cow would suckle two calves and be in better condition in the fall than if she had run with only one calf.

Note.—The point brought out in Mr. Buck's experience, of the superior advantage of keeping the calf in the house, only allowing it to suckle twice a day, is well understood by practical men, but may be new to some. By careful management a cow has been known to suckle three or even four calves in a year in this way, but it is rather wearing if she is not generously fed. Mr. Ivens has a faculty of getting hold of most things by the right end and we are glad to give his experience along this line.

### Is the Milk of Tuberculous Cows Infectious?

By F. C. Harrison, Bacteriologist, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont.

Prof. Harrison is at present visiting leading Bacteriological Laboratories in Europe, remaining long enough at each place to thoroughly study the methods of work followed at each institution. He is paying particular attention to bacteriological growth in milk and milk products, as well as bacteria that affect animals in health and disease. The following article, written by him from Berne, Switzerland, and kindly forwarded to The Farmer by the Secretary of the Live Stock Association, A. P. Westervelt, Toronto, will, we feel sure, be read with interest:—

The prevention and cure of consumption are questions which are of the most vital importance to mankind. This year the Congress on Tuberculosis was held at Berlin, Germany, the more important sections dealing with the treatment of the disease and sanatoria. Many speakers dwelt on the importance of educating the public to the fact that tuberculosis is infectious, but it is still difficult to get many people to accept all the scientific conclusions which have been arrived at in connection with the prevention of the disease.

I shall only now mention some results obtained by two German investigators, which emphasize the necessity of having the assistance of veterinary surgeons if the disease is to be thoroughly overcome.

The part which infectious milk may play in the communicability of the disease from animals to mankind has been the subject of numerous researches, and certain instances of this communicability are well established on authoritative evidence, but, unfortunately, a difference of opinion exists upon the infectiousness of milk of tuberculous cows, not suffering with disease of the udder.

All veterinary surgeons know the difficulty of diagnosing tuberculosis in animals only slightly affected; but, thanks to the tuberculin test, these cases are easily isolated. The question that naturally arises is, how are we to regard the milk of these diseased cattle, which show no clinical symptoms of the disease?

Doctors Rabinowitch and Klemperer, of Berlin, have lately published an inter-

# The Tubular is New

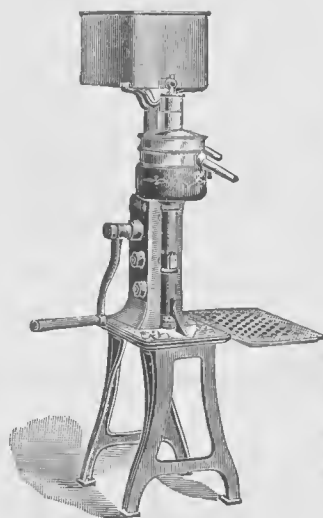
Just a little over two years old, and so is the best of everything new. As improvement is the order of the age, the best things are necessarily new—for instance, the latest telephone and phonograph, the latest bicycle, the latest automobile, etc., etc.

Not so many of the Tubulars are in use as of some other machines; there are always more of the old than the new—more of the old tin pans than of Separators.

But owing to the great merits of the Tubular Separators, more than three times as many of them are in use as was the case with any other Separator at the same period of its existence.

The very first Sharples Tubular that was sold a little over two years ago is running to-day, handling over 4,000 lbs. of milk per hour, and leaving not over .02 of fat in the skim milk, and has not cost one dollar so far for repairs.

Great improvements have been made in the Tubular machines since the first one was sold, but these only add increased value for the present buyers.



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esting paper on the subject, which I shall here briefly notice. The results of former investigations may be summed up in the following table:—

Author.	Number of cows investigated.	Times tubercle bacilli found in milk.	Per cent.
May . . . . .	6	1	16.6
Stein . . . . .	14	4	28.5
Bang . . . . .	63	9	14.0
Hirschberger . . . . .	20	11	55.0
Ernst . . . . .	36	10	28.5
Smith and Schroeder . . . . .	6	2	33.2
Schroeder . . . . .	31	2	6.5
Delepine . . . . .	37	9	24.3
Nocard . . . . .	54	3	5.5
Rabinowitch and Klemperer . . . . .	15	10	66.6

The fifteen cows investigated by the last-named authors were examined clinically by Professor Eggling, of Berlin, on three separate occasions, five months elapsing between the first and last examination. The milk of ten of these cows contained tubercle bacilli, and the clinical notes, necessarily abbreviated, were as follows:—

1. Only one (No. 12) showed distinct clinical symptoms of udder tuberculosis.
2. Cow 9, at the post mortem, was found to have tubercular lesions in the udder (not noticed during life).
3. Cows 1, 6, 11 had advanced generalised tuberculosis, but none in the udder.
4. Cow 4 showed slight tuberculosis.
5. In cow 10 the diagnosis of commencing tuberculosis could only be noticed at the second and third examinations.
6. Cow 8 showed at the first examina-

tion respiratory murmurs, whilst the two following examinations showed no symptoms of tuberculosis.

7. Cow 2 showed no signs of tuberculosis in the three examinations. Cow 14 showed no visible trace of the disease.

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contains, besides other useful information the most concise and practical directions for making butter ever given to the farmers of the Canadian North-West. Worth \$2. It will be supplied gratis on your sending your address, at same time stating the number of cows you keep, how you raise your cream, and what make of Cream Separator you use, if any.

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All the above cows gave a positive reaction with tuberculin, and in all tubercle bacilli were found in the milk.

As the authors remark, these results are considerably different from those of former authors, not only as to the high percentage of infected milk, but also in the clinical results obtained. On most occasions others have found tubercle bacilli in the milk, only in cases of udder tuberculosis and in very advanced generalized tuberculosis.

These researches warrant the enunciation of two further conclusions:

1. Cows, with commencing tuberculosis and without demonstrable infection of the udder, may contain tubercle bacilli in their milk. Cows 4, 10 and 8 are examples.

2. Cows with latent tuberculosis, showing no clinical symptoms, and the disease only revealed by the tuberculin test, may also contain tubercle bacilli in their milk. Cows 2 and 14 are examples.

With regard to the other five cows (more or less diseased) in whose milk no bacilli were found, the authors were hindered by exterior reasons from making repeated experiments with the milk of these animals.

In spite of the small numbers of the authors' researches they feel themselves justified in stating that:

The milk from tuberculin reacting cows is to be considered in every case as suspicious, and they recommend besides the clinical examination, bacteriological surveillance of milch animals and the tuberculin test as the most important method of obtaining tubercle free milk.

### Distrust of Creamery Managers.

One of the greatest hindrances to the successful working of the creamery system is the lack of trust in the manager to make a fair and impartial test of the samples of cream taken from each patron's supply. The oil test churn by which the test is made is not understood by many of the patrons and consequently regarded with suspicion. If there is any variation in the readings of the test, the blame is placed on the manager. This very question is now making trouble in some of our western creameries. At the Vermont Dairymen's Convention this old problem came up for discussion, and, by the way, it is a universal problem and not confined to Western Canada. W. D. Hoard answered it. He said that skilled supervision and open books were the best remedies. Duplicate tests should be made so as to satisfy every patron. Much of the distrust is owing to the ignorance of farmers, for which there is no excuse to-day. When creamery managers are honest and farmers intelligent there is no trouble. Co-operative creameries were advocated to settle the difficulty, and several managers of these creameries spoke of their marked success in different parts of the state. Let those who are dissatisfied with their tests go to the creamery and see how the tests are made. Insist on having their cream tested in duplicate the day they go. But before that see that the samples are properly taken. Herein lies a great part of the trouble. The test is all right and the best known way of testing cream. Become familiar with it and the trouble will cease.

The Farmer is indebted to J. A. Rud-dick, Dairy Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture of New Zealand, for a copy of the dairy conventions in those islands, held at Dunedin and Stratford.

I formerly believed in the deep setting process and am still a believer in it in a

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2. 15 . . . . .	2 to 7 "
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4. 28 . . . . .	4 to 12 "
5. 30 . . . . .	6 to 14 "
6. 40 . . . . .	8 to 20 "

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qualified sense. But undoubtedly a larger amount of butter can be made with the separator and the quality may be better, because the milk can be put into butter quicker than by the deep setting process. —Major Alvord, Chief of the Dairy Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

At the Vermont Dairymen's Convention, held recently at Brattleboro, Major Alvord, chief of the U. S. Dairy Division, said:—"Ordinarily I do not approve of pasteurization. It is a premium on slovenliness and carelessness in dairying. Most Danish creameries pasteurize the milk made into butter, and then use cultures to ripen the cream. The reasons for pasteurizing are the prevalence of tuberculosis among the cattle, and the advantages of uniformity in the quality of the butter. There is nothing to be gained

by pasteurizing milk in the manufacture of butter, provided good milk is used."

J. W. Mitchell, Dairy Superintendent for Assiniboia, has just returned from a visit to the creameries at Yorkton, Salt-coats and Churchbridge, and is now attending to work on the C. P. R. He is making a winter round of the creameries, overseeing the putting up of ice stores, attending meetings of the different local creamery associations and encouraging the work generally. He speaks quite encouragingly of the prospects for a good season for the factories under his charge on the M. & N. W., the members of the Churchbridge creamery especially being enthusiastic in the dairy business. Everywhere he is wisely laying great stress on the gains to be secured by a longer season and a greater care to all cows, especially in the fall and spring months.

## Live Stock Impounded, Lost, or Estray.

In this department we publish as full a list of the impounded, lost and estray stock of Western Canada as is available. Notice in one issue, not exceeding five lines of lost or estray stock is given free to any of our subscribers who forward information. Notices exceeding above mentioned length will be chargeable at the rate of 10 cents per line on all overplus matter. The list of impounded stock is compiled from reliable sources; lost stock is open to those whose stock has been lost and who wish to recover them; estray stock is open to those who have taken up estray stock and wish to find owners.

The following is a list of animals impounded, lost or estray since January 20th issue:—

### Impounded.

Bale St. Paul, Man.—One horse, color sorrel, white stripe on face, four white legs, about 4 years old, weight about 12 cwt., no brand. J. Giasson.

Greenridge, Man.—One horse, color bay, hind feet white, aged. H. Scholtz.

Rosser, Man.—One horse colt, color bay, hind feet white, small stripe on forehead, white spot on nose, no brand visible, about 2 years old. W. Atkinson, 23, 11, 2.

Selkirk, Man.—One mare, color brown, about 8 years old, no brand; one colt, color dark brown, two hind feet white, white stripe on face; one spring colt, no brand. R. Fumerton.

Springfield, Man.—One cow, color roan, both horns broken off, piece cut out of the under side of ears. W. B. Sarvis.

St. Eustache, Man.—One filly, color brown, three white spots on lower part of the left hind foot, about 3 years old, no other marks visible. Paul Paul.

### Lost.

Barnsley, Man.—One dark bay mare, 7 or 8 years old, weight 1,000 to 1,200 lbs; very timid; cancelled brand on left hip, shod on front feet, bar shoe right foot. John P. Parsons, 28, 7, 4.

Carstairs, Alta.—One gelding, half Clyde, dark bay, 7 years old, branded E T on right shoulder; one horse colt, dark iron gray; cayuse, rising 3 years old, pacer, no brand; one dark roan heifer, branded R 2 T on left ribs, rising 2 years old; one all white heifer, no brand, rising 2 years old; \$10 reward. Samuel Troyer.

Clover Bar, Alta.—Brown colt, 4 years old, weight about 1,100 lbs; bay horse, 5 years old, white face and white feet, weight about 1,000 lbs; light bay colt, 4 years old, star on forehead, weight about 1,200 lbs.; all three branded on left cheek. J. C. C. Bremner.

Cordova, Man.—One bay pony mare, white legs and feet, branded G B on right shoulder, large white face, white spots under belly, weight about 700 lbs., 6 years old. F. G. Sims.

Dunrea, Man.—One small dark red yearling heifer, with a few white spots, recently dehorned. Reward. John Snelgrove, 34, 4, 17.

Flettwode, Assa.—Two black yearling mullie heifers (one with white star on face), branded V 2 R on right ribs; \$5 reward. Mr. McGaw.

Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa.—One moose colored cow, branded L D 3. R. S. Smith.

Greenwood, Man.—One brown mare colt, 1 year old, with a white stripe on hind foot; also a 1-year-old red steer, with a large white spot on the face, and tip cut off right ear. William Crawford.

Glenboro, Man.—One bay mare, rising 4 years old, lame on the off hind leg, bad rope balter on when she left. R. H. Ferguson.

Lebret, Assa.—One red cow with calf at side, branded N W on left hip. Ed. C. Murphy.

Neepawa, Man.—One roan heifer, coming two years. Samuel Farrell, 32, 11, 15.

Oak Bluff, Man.—Three calves, two white, with red beads, one red with three white spots, all heifers. Chas. Patterson, 9, 1e.

Saskatoon, Sask.—One light bay pony, horse, 4 years old, clipped, black mane and tail, small white star on forehead, branded on left shoulder. Miss N. Hunter.

Saskatchewan, Sask.—One stallion, rising two years, dark sorrel or almost bay, small stripe on face, small circle brand on left shoulder. Newton J. Anderson, NE 4, 37, 4w3.

Wishart, Assa.—One bull, about 18 months old, roan muley. John McInnis, SE 4, 36, 29, 16w2.

Yorkton, Assa.—Two sorrel geldings, 5 or 6 years, brand on left shoulder somewhat resembling a T with a bar above; bay gelding, about 7 years, also heavy set gray gelding, about 1,200 lbs., about 5 or 6 years, both branded P on left shoulder; low set, heavy saddle gelding, branded T with bar above on right shoulder. Carson Bros.

### Estray.

Beaver Creek, Man.—Four bay colts, three pony breed, one Canadian. Owner prove and pay expenses. A. Lamont, 12, 9, 19.

Bowden, Alta.—One steer, roan, nose has been pulled out with a ring, piece of right ear missing. S. L. Boyd.

Carnduff, Assa.—Two broncho mares, one black and one grey, diamond B on shoulder. Geo. E. Whiting, 24, 1, 33w1.

Churchbridge, Assa.—One small yearling steer, red, white on belly and tail, small white spot on left hip. M. Henriksen, 22, 22, 32w1.

Clover Bar, Alta.—One 2-year-old red roan bull. J. Williams.

Clover Bar, Alta.—One gelding, mouse color, face and hind feet white; also one bay foal; one mare, dark sorrel; gelding, iron gray; gelding, bay, white hind feet; mare, with foal, bay, white hind feet, star on forehead; mare with foal, dark bay, small. H. W. Edmonston, SW 4, 16, 53, 22w4.

Dalesboro, Assa.—One yearling heifer, red. Robert Hume, 12, 6, 3w2.

Duck Lake, Sask.—One steer, about 2 years, red, white spots on forehead and hind legs, indistinct brand on left hind leg; one heifer, about 18 months old, roan, indistinct N on right hind leg. T. Lansvez, 19, 43, 1w3.

Ebenezer, Assa.—One yearling heifer, brown, with white under body, white up to hocks on hind legs, white star on forehead, no brand. Daniel Hoffman.

Flett Springs, Assa.—One heifer, 2 years, red. Chas. S. Heatte, 22, 44, 19w2.

Flettwode, Assa.—Two yearling heifers, red, one has white stripe down back, other has little white on belly; cow, 5 years, red, white spot on forehead, drooped horns. Thomas Hurd, SE 4, 16, 11, 4w2.

Hartney, Man.—One bay mare, about 5 years old, dark legs, white hind feet, scar on left fore foot, diamond-shaped white spot on forehead; she came onto the premises about January 20. A. B. Winter, 12, 7, 23.

Hillburn, Assa.—One mare, 2 or 3 years, brown, stripe down face, right hind feet white, about 15 hands high, weighs about 1,000 lbs. Albert Webster, 20, 16, 31w1.

Horse Hill, Alta.—One 3-year-old mare colt, black, white star on forehead, weighs about 1,200 lbs., no brand, kick mark on off front knee, splint mark on left leg. Jacob Broder.

Edmonton, Alta.—One red steer, branded S 10 on left side in two places. Wm. J. McKay.

Kirkpatrick, Sask.—One yearling steer, yellowish red, in very poor condition. Thomas Scott NW 4, 22, 47, 28w2.

Lebret, Assa.—Two heifers, 2 years, both spotted red and white; two steers, 2 years, both red; one steer, 1 year, black. N. Paquin, 8, 27, 25w4.

Cypress River, Man.,  
Jan. 30, 1900.

### THE NOR'-WEST FARMER,

Dear Sirs,—Through your valuable paper I have found 2 horses which were lost for two months and a half. We found them 60 miles west of here. I don't think I would have found them had it not been for The Nor'-West Farmer, as we had given up hopes of ever finding them.

The Nor'-West Farmer is the right kind of paper for the farmers of Western Canada—gives the kind of information needed by the farmers.

Yours respectfully,  
WYNDHAM GOULD.

Lone Tree, Man.—Came on my premises Dec. 12, bay mare, about 800 lbs.; brown horse, white hind feet, about same weight and 3 years old. A. Cumming, 16, 19, 24.

Namao, Alta.—One mare, roan, rope round neck, white face, indistinct brand on left hip. W. F. Craig, NE 4, 9, 55, 24w4.

Oblen, Assa.—One pony horse, dark bay, stripe down face, left front and hind feet white. Mrs. K. Berglund, NE 4, 28, 18, 2w2.

Olds, Alta.—One small mare, bay, half diamond J on right shoulder, left hind foot white, left front ankle crooked, other ankles weak. T. R. Tribe, SE 4, 24, 33, 1w5.

Pense, Assa.—Two red and white cows, about 3 years old, one has erect horns, and one horizontal horns and short tail. James W. Brunskill 14, 16, 22w2.

Prince Albert, Sask.—Joined band of C. R. Dandy, while travelling from Indian Head, Assa., to Prince Albert, Sask., about December 20th, when about middle of Salt Plains, small, chunky, dark gray mare, white hind feet, about 6 years old, care S. J. Donaldson, Prince Albert, Sask.

Qu'Appelle Station, Assa.—One horse, about 10 years, dark brown or black, star on forehead. Wm. Gow, 2, 17, 16w2.

Ross Creek, Beaver Lake, Alta.—One mare, 11 years old, dark brown, blind in right eye, W on left thigh, weight about 1,100 lbs. A. L. Lewis 20, 53, 19w4.

Saltcoats, Assa.—Two 3-year-old steers, one roan, one red with white. Robert W. Miles 20, 24, 2w2.

Spruce Grove, Alta.—Two mares, one black and the other sorrel, both white stars on forehead and ropes around neck. Adam Glebelhars.

Strathcona, Alta.—One Polled Angus steer, 1 year, O on right rump. C. Black, 22, 57, 25w4.

Summer, Assa.—About two months ago, filly foal, about 6 days old, dark brown. Ernest Young, 36, 19, 2w2.

Wetaskiwin, Alta.—Four yearling steers, red spotted with white, Arthur Whitaker, SW 4, 2, 46, 22w4.

Wetaskiwin, Alta.—One steer, 2 years, black, white belly, white stripe on back, dark, forward pointed horns. Otto Newman, SW 4, 16, 46, 24w4.

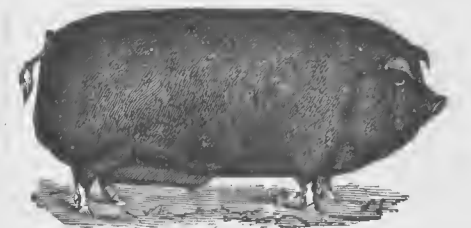
Wetaskiwin, Alta.—One heifer, about 18 mos. old, roan, white under belly, white tail and white forehead; one heifer, about 18 mos. old, little white roan, white under belly, white tail, mostly red on ribs and neck; one muley heifer, about 18 mos. old, brown ears, brown around nose, little white around bag; aged cow, with white bull calf, roan, brand something like W, indistinct, on left hip, belly and tail white, dehorned. Andrew Vold, 22, 43, 23w4.

White Sand, Assa.—Came to my place about middle of August, one red and white cow, with black nose, white star on forehead, indistinct brand on right hip. Thos. Adams.

## W. L. TRANN, CRYSTAL CITY, MAN.

Proprietor of Boundary Herd of

## POLAND CHINA SWINE



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Sole Agent for the Dominion.

1874

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# THE NOR'-WEST FARMER

ISSUED TWICE A MONTH.

ESTABLISHED 1882.

The Only Agricultural Paper Printed in Canada between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, and issued on the 5th and 20th of each month.

THE STOVEL COMPANY,  
PROPRIETORS.

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## TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

It is the intention of the publishers of this paper to admit into their columns none but reliable advertisers, and we believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from such parties. If subscribers find any of them to be otherwise, we will esteem it a favor if they will advise us, and we will at any time give our personal attention to any complaints which we receive. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often advertise different things in several papers.

## LETTERS.

Either on business or editorial matters, should be addressed simply "The Nor'-West Farmer, P.O. Box 1310, Winnipeg," and not to any individual.

## Look at Your Subscription Label.

When you pay your subscription, watch the name label on the next two issues which you receive. On the first issue following payment, it might not give the correct date—the typesetting machine may make an error and the proof not be corrected before mailing day. But if the date is not correct on the second issue please notify us by postal card.

Look at the date label now. Are you in arrears? Are you "paid up" to the end of 1900? The label will tell you. If in arrears, please renew promptly.

Subscribers who miss any of the issues of "THE NOR'-WEST FARMER" should drop us a card at once and secure same, as we want every subscriber to get every copy. Do not delay in sending, as our supply of extras sometimes becomes quickly exhausted.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 5, 1900.



—With our next issue we purpose sending to all subscribers who are paid up to the end of 1900 the second portrait in the South African war series. Is your subscription paid up? The label on this issue will tell you.

—We have found it necessary to hold over a large quantity of reading matter that was intended for this issue. This will appear in our next.

—Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, author of "In His Steps," has been offered and accepted the offer of the editor of the Topeka Capital newspaper, to hand him over the paper for at least one week, to be run by him in accordance with his idea of what a Christian daily newspaper should be. The experiment will be followed with considerable interest everywhere, especially on this continent.

## FREE C. P. R. SIRES AND THE BREEDERS.

The free distribution of pure bred sires by the C. P. R. has raised considerable discussion throughout the province and The Farmer is pleased to see that the subject is down for discussion at the coming convention of the Cattle Breeders' Association. It is a question of vital interest to the breeders, and to the farmers as well, and we hope to see it well threshed out from every standpoint. The position The Farmer has taken on the question is well known, but there are always two sides to every question. The need for the introduction of pure bred sires throughout the country is great—great enough, perhaps, to override objections to almost any plan of getting them in. That the free sires will do good work in improving the stock of the districts into which they are sent, cannot be denied. The question to be considered is: What is the best policy in the best interests of the country for the present and the future? It is a question of the greatest good to the greatest number. The Farmer would like to get at the truth of this matter and so should the breeders. It is not alone the immediate effect which the distribution of free sires will have, but also how it will affect the future. In the discussion of this subject breeders must not be blinded by present interests, i.e., by prospective loss of sales, they must rise above the present and look as far into the future as they can. If the free distribution of pure-bred sires accomplishes anything like the good the railway company hope, in improving the quality of our stock and in creating a demand for better stock, will it not ultimately be in the best interests of breeders?

Therefore, let all come prepared to discuss this question from every point of view so that a definite conclusion may be arrived at. If you can't come, send your written opinion. If you have any facts about the effects of the free distribution made last fall come prepared to state them. The C. P. R. officials have expressed their willingness to meet a conference with the breeders, let them be specially invited to attend the session at which this discussion takes place. If this scheme has any merit, or if it is in the best interests of the country we want to know it. It is to be hoped that all will come prepared to discuss this question on a broad basis, not with personal prejudice arising from fear of reduced sales, but in the light of the best interests of the stock industry of the west.

## THE ELEVATOR COMMISSION.

After a long and careful investigation conducted at every point in the wheat growing districts, where information of any consequence could be gathered, the Elevator Commission has closed the first stage of its operations. The members of that commission were, we think, very prudently selected. The chairman, the late Judge Senkler, has had previous experience in similar work and the three farmer colleagues are well known and capable men. All of them have shown great willingness to hear evidence on every aspect of the question and have taken particular care to try and find out from objectors to the present system whatever suggestions they had to offer in the way of remedial measures. The principal value in all that has been already done is that it has certainly brought out in ample detail and with almost tiresome iteration the grievances for which the system now in operation has been blamed as the chief producing cause.

The history of the present system is not without practical interest. It grew out of the exigencies of the country at an early stage of its development and it is only justice to point out that whatever faults may have been found since, the farmers themselves were in most cases as eager to have elevators as the proprietors were to put them up. When thousands of bags of wheat were lying for weeks along the sidewalks at such points as Glenboro, with little prospect of timely transportation, there was more cry for elevators than has ever been made against them at a later stage of their history. But times change and we change with them. There is now at some points a surplus of elevators, and a struggle for existence, which will most likely end, as all such struggles do, in the survival of the fittest agencies for the manipulation of the wheat business of the country.

Theoretically it is the business of the railroad companies to provide sufficient transportation for whatever freight is offered them, or failing that, warehouse space till it can be carried. But in actual practice this theory has been set aside wherever large quantities of produce have to be transported. There is no railroad existing that has seriously attempted to carry out this statutory obligation, and no shipper has ever ventured to try and enforce it. It is impossible to carry out in ten weeks the grain products of any season and the more bountiful the crop the less practicable does it become to carry it out as desired by its owners or purchasers. Things were worse when the elevator system originated than they are to-day. The C. P. R., as well as the farmers who required its services, were struggling with financial difficulties, and elevators became an absolute necessity. To encourage their erection, President Van Horne arranged in all leases for elevator sites on his road that nothing but standard elevators should for the time the lease continued be allowed on his road, but to make this practical monopoly as fair as possible conditioned at the same time that storage should be allowed, so far as the space was available, to all who asked for it, and at a reasonable scale of charges.

In course of time this well-intentioned arrangement opened the door to a good few troubles not anticipated by its originator. One great idea with Mr. Van Horne was that in such elevators all dirt would be cleaned out and only clean wheat carried. So far so good. But it was found that elevator owners and their employees found in these arrangements a means not only of squeezing independent buyers and deferring their shipments, but of bleeding, in the way of excessive dockage and reduced prices, the farmers whom the squeezing out of those independent buyers left much at their mercy. The cry of combinations, amounting in effect to a conspiracy to depress the local value of wheat, became so strong that it was taken up in Parliament and the present commission is the outcome of that agitation.

It is impossible here to discuss the value of the huge mass of evidence taken by the commissioners. The job will take weeks to go through and it is not an enviable one for the men who have it to do. There is one kind of testimony conspicuous by its absence. There are thousands of farmers and a good many buyers who have gone on doing business with each other for many years without developing as much unpleasant friction in all that time as could be adduced from one small station in three months. Trickery is not confined to buyers only, and kicking is a faculty that narrow minded people can develop to such an extent as to make them very undesirable people to do busi-



ness with. It must also be borne in mind that though there is evidence practically indisputable that some men running elevators are not what they ought to be, it is not possible, even in the beginning of the 20th century, to introduce the millennium by Act of the Dominion or any other Parliament. And while every farmer and every business man is interested and should work for the abolition of the special restrictions now obtaining along the whole of the leading railroad system of the country, the men who have invested in reliance of the continuance of those restrictions are entitled to reasonable consideration. The justice we claim for ourselves we should be prepared to give to others. Law does not settle everything.

But whatever allowance may be asked or admitted for the vested interests of the elevators conditionally protected by the present C. P. R. leases, the only method of settlement that can be satisfactory to the farming community is one that will enable the whole business of selling and buying wheat to operate along the line of least resistance. Whatever objections the leading companies interested in the elevator systems may fairly take, they must be made to understand that their modes of handling at local points must be changed to suit the changing conditions of the country. The drift of the present course of things is decidedly in the direction of free and unfettered trade. Somebody is always certain to suffer when even beneficial changes are introduced and the risk of individual loss and inconvenience must not stand in the way of the general good.

Let us take first one of the many cases that might be taken to illustrate our meaning and assume that restrictions against flat warehouses are abolished and instead of an elevator being operated for months in the slack season at a serious loss to its owners, a local merchant arranges to buy and store in his own little warehouse on the track enough wheat in a week or fortnight to fill one or two cars, for which, as his running expenses are next to nothing, he can afford to pay three to five cents more than the elevator. Why should this man and his farmer neighbors be barred from doing such business merely because some person or company at Winnipeg has sunk \$3,000 to \$5,000 in an elevator and keeps a man to operate it?

It is premature to speculate on the summing up of the commissioners and the policy they may point to. But we are pretty confident that as practical farmers conversant with the needs of the country, they will, while willing to do justly by the present holders of the ground, point to increasing freedom of trade in wheat and the abolition of every privilege that stands in the way of that freedom as the soundest policy that can be framed for the business they have been called on to investigate.

## THE SHEEP AND THE COYOTE.

It is at times refreshing to peruse the columns of our daily and weekly contemporaries, when the editorial mind has concentrated itself upon the subject of sheep-raising. We are told that the hoof of the sheep is "golden," we meet convincing arguments respecting its value as a destroyer of noxious weeds, we are informed, as a eleneher, that had it not been for Rider Haggard's small flock of sheep, the result of his "Farmer's Year" would have been represented by an entry on the debit side of his ledger. In fact, if we make any pretence whatever to common sense and business sagacity, we cannot fail to see, that unless every farmer in Manitoba

and the Northwest Territories immediately engage in sheep raising, the country must, as a matter of course, go to the dogs. In spite of the alluring arguments put up in favor of the sheep. The Farmer prefers to counsel a conservative course, and to see a gradual development of the sheep industry as the country progresses and the difficulties in the way of successful sheep rearing are minimised and finally entirely overcome.

There can be no reasonable doubt, that sheep raising, under the proper conditions, is a very profitable industry, but the nature of the business is such that unless these conditions are actually present the estimated profit may very easily be transformed into a very serious loss.

The greatest obstacle to sheep ranging in the west to-day, is, undoubtedly, the ravages of the coyote, and it is a very serious question whether this evil is one which can be successfully disposed of at present. Packs of hounds have been maintained by many sheep owners and although the effect has been good for a time, owing to the vast area of unsettled country to the north, any deficiencies in the stock of coyotes in any particular locality, is supplied at very short notice. Many sheep men also object to the hunting of the country with dogs. Hounds do not always discriminate between the fleet-footed coyote and the peaceful sheep. Some sheep owners, indeed, go as far as to declare that they prefer coyotes to hounds on the principle that "of two evils, choose the least."

Some districts have been materially benefitted by wholesale poisoning of these pests. A vast deal of damage has, however, been done to the domestic animals, through carelessness in setting out baits. Scores of valuable dogs have been poisoned and many cases are on record where cattle have picked up poisoned baits prepared with salt meat and have come to an untimely end as a result.

The subject of exterminating predatory animals is one surrounded by grave difficulties. Some investigations in this respect made by T. S. Palmer, as assistant in the Biological Surveys Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, U.S., are of very considerable interest. After carefully studying the nature and results of paying bounties for the destruction of wild animals in various portions of the world, Mr. Palmer sums the whole case up as follows:—

"(1) Bounty legislation has existed in the United States for more than two centuries and a half, and has been thoroughly tested in most of the States and Territories.

(2) Rewards have been paid (a) on large animals, such as wolves, coyotes, bears and panthers; (b) on small animals, particularly gophers, ground squirrels and rabbits; (c) on a few birds, such as crows, English sparrows, hawks and owls.

(3) This legislation has probably involved an expenditure of over \$3,000,000.00 in the last quarter of a century, and the expense seems to be increasing instead of decreasing. Single laws have caused an outlay of nearly \$200,000.00 in less than two years, and it is safe to say that any act which carries a sufficiently high reward to insure its operation will cost from \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00 per annum.

(4) Objections to the bounty system may be grouped under four main heads: (a) Expense, which is usually out of all proportion to the benefit gained, and may be greater than the country or State can afford; (b) impossibility of maintaining bounties in all parts of an animal's range for any length of time; (c) impossibility of maintaining equal rates in all States; (d) impossibility of preventing payments for animals imported from other States, for counterfeit scalps, or for animals raised especially for bounty. These objections

have never been satisfactorily overcome, and most laws have failed through one or another of these causes.

(5) Bounties have not resulted in the extermination of a single species in the United States and have failed even in the island of Bermuda, which has an area of less than twenty square miles.

(6) Rewards for wolves, coyotes and panthers are now so generally paid as to check the increase to some extent, but premiums on ground squirrels, gophers or other small mammals have accomplished little or nothing, and bounties on birds may do great harm by encouraging the killing of useful species through ignorance.

(7) Extermination of noxious animals is usually slow and can be accomplished more effectually and economically through the efforts of individual landowners than by the profuse expenditure of public funds."

There can be no question whatever, that the enormous undisturbed breeding grounds to the north, operate very seriously against the success of any attempt, state-aided or otherwise, of ridding the country of coyotes.

The subject is a timely one. The legislatures of the Province of Manitoba as well as that of the Northwest Territories, are to meet in the near future, and the question of coyote bounty legislation is a burning one at the present time, and will certainly come up for discussion and action. Any measures hitherto adopted have been absolutely ineffectual and The Farmer is very much inclined to agree with the conclusions of Mr. Palmer, that a bounty law to be conducive to good results, must contemplate an expenditure of between \$5,000 and \$20,000, according to the necessities of the case. The natural position of both Manitoba and the Territories is as disadvantageous as it could possibly be, with reference to facility for the extermination of the coyote; the amount to be appropriated should, therefore, be liberal in order to fit the necessities of the case.

This is a matter which should be dealt with by both governments in a thorough and statesmanlike manner. A small appropriation is a wanton waste of public funds, and should not, therefore, be countenanced, although the temptation will no doubt be great to deal with the question on that basis to satisfy disgruntled country constituencies. The electors of the west will not, however, be hoodwinked by any attempt to stave the question off in that manner. If the finances of the respective governments admit of the expenditure, and the importance of the sheep industry warrants it, a liberal appropriation should be made and the question dealt with boldly.

The Farmer will be glad to hear from its many readers on the subject.

## THAT HAIL INSURANCE CO.

Many of our readers are at this moment in a state of suspense as to their future action with regard to the Manitoba Mutual and look to The Farmer for advice. Unfortunately the warnings given by us against making any terms with the then directors of the company, until matters were fully sifted, were unheeded and they were paid enough money to enable them to make the scoop, which was apparently the object for which they came.

A directorate of home men is now in control of the business and they aim at putting the affairs of the company on a sound and honest business basis, by collecting a moderate assessment out of which to pay the balance of the outstanding claims for losses still unsettled, refund overcharges to those who have al-

ready paid and thereafter, carry on the business in a manner that will secure for them the confidence and continued support of a large constituency.

But a number who have followed our advice to refuse payment hitherto, now ask us to advise as to their future action now that the company is again pressing for payment. We incline to believe that even in the face of all the proven trickery of the agents through whom these notes were obtained, a court would still hold them good for the purpose for which they were granted. But this, the main point, can best be decided by a prompt appeal to the nearest court of competent jurisdiction. If that is favorable to the company it is hardly worth while to carry the case to a higher court. The counsel we now offer in view of the whole facts of the matter is that no payment need be made till the company call a test case into court. If they then succeed, it would only be a very doubtful policy to longer refuse payment.

—A number of our subscribers have us send *The Farmer* to friends in other parts of the world. One of these, in conversation with one of our staff recently, said that his friends in the old country have been very much pleased with the paper, and were wholesomely surprised at seeing from the illustrations something of the advancement being made by Western Canada. What would be a nicer or better gift to the friends at the old home in Ontario, the Maritime Provinces, the old country, or wherever they may be, than a year's subscription to this paper?

### The Value of Prize Mutton Shown at the Ontario Winter Fair.

By F. W. Hodson, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner.

The following letter has just reached me from Wm. Davies, President of the William Davies Company, Pork Packers and Export Provision Merchants, one of Canada's most important and greatest national industries:—

F. W. Hodson, Esq., Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Flavelle has suggested to me that I should give you my experience in eating the prize mutton. I bought a leg and two loins and the meat was excellent. It was surpassingly fine. Of course we had to cut off most of the very thick fat, but the lean was rich, juicy, tender, very fine in the fibre, and in every respect a great treat. I imagined this was from a Shropshire or Southdown sheep. I afterwards bought two loins and they proved very unsatisfactory. The meat was dry, the fibre coarse, the bones large and coarse, and the fat anything but nice. In the case of the first the fat was rich and tender. I think the last must have been a Cotswold or a Leicester. While the first we had was very much superior to anything we can buy in the ordinary way, the second was inferior to the best that we have in the regular course of business. I thought this would interest you. Of course all lovers of good mutton know that the Downs are much superior to other breeds.—Yours truly, William Davies.

The carcasses shown at the Provincial Winter Fair, held in London, were sold to the William Davies Company, with the understanding that each should be reported upon. This was done and the reports will appear in the annual report of the Dominion Live Stock Associations, now in the hands of the printers. These reports are very interesting and instructive.

They plainly pointed out that the carcasses of animals otherwise good may easily be spoiled by improper feeding. The swine carcasses were of better quality than the sheep. The block tests held the previous year had worked wonders in the case of the swine, even yet they are not as good as they ought to be. The sheep were nearly all too fat. In order to sell them to the best trade, or, in fact, to any trade, nearly 40 per cent. of the dressed weight had to be trimmed away, add to this the average shrinkage between live and dead weights of 44 per cent., and we have a total shrinkage between live weight and saleable flesh of 84 per cent. The value of the hides and the value of the trimmings have not been considered this year, but hereafter they should be for the sake of accuracy, though the value of each is small. Who eventually loses the 84 per cent., which is at least 35 per cent. more than it should be. Certainly not the butchers, but the farmers. If our best farmers and feeders lose 35 per cent. by improper feeding, what do the rank and file lose? Few of us have ever considered this question in its true light. Yet a careful consideration of it means money to the farmer and better food to the consumer. Much of the mutton served at even our best hotels is objectionable. This fact reduces the home consumption.

I am creditably informed that fully 30 per cent. of the pigs marketed in Ontario during 1899 were rendered second or third class by improper feeding, animals which should have been first class dressed out second and third class, and as such had to be sold at greatly reduced prices. At first the exporters may lose, but if they do, down goes the price per pound live weight and it stays there until the packer is recouped. Packers who have hundreds of thousands of dollars invested in plant and stock must at least make a fair percentage on investment. This is reasonable and in the interest of all classes. The export business would soon fall into decay and cease if it were otherwise. The fact that one man in a county breeds and feeds the wrong class of pigs is a damage to a neighborhood, an injury to every man who sells pigs, and an injury to our home and foreign trade.

The dressed poultry shown in London were all sold to the William Davies Company. As yet we have not received a report concerning them. The turkeys were heavier than the best markets demand. A coop of chickens were bought on the London market and were a fair specimen of those offered alive there during the month of December, when one would expect good birds. These were killed and dressed in the most approved way by the experts who were present at the show to lecture on poultry and by public exhibitions show the people how to kill and prepare birds for the foreign and home trade. These birds were sold in Toronto for 44 cents per pair, which I believe was more than they were worth. They were mongrel chicks of large frame, but not properly fed. Well bred birds which had been fed as recommended by the Department of Agriculture sold readily for \$1.20 to \$1.30 per pair. I had difficulty in disposing of the first lot, but could have sold the second lot over and over again. The same old story, a superior article increases the demand, a bad article restricted it.

Again referring to Mr. Davies' letter, each carcass shown was conspicuously marked so as to indicate to which breed it belonged. It is a pity the retail stores had not kept a close watch on these markings, so as to be able to inform customers just which breed they were eating. Those eaten by Mr. Davies may or may not have been Southdowns; they may or they may not have been Cotswolds.

Mr. Davies letter has taught us a valu-

able lesson, i.e., that it is not enough for our Provincial Live Stock Association to have animals judged alive, then slaughter them, and have them judged again. This is a great advance over old methods and one calculated to do good to our home and export trade. We must go a step further, viz., the association should buy all carcasses shown and pay a fair market price for each, this price to be set by a disinterested party or parties. Arrangements should be made to dispose of them as the executive officers thought best. This plan would doubtless entail a small loss to the association, but information of the greatest value to the country could be obtained by having the animals cut up and reported upon by experts. Arrangements could also be made with some of the large caterers or clubs in London, Toronto, and Ottawa, to buy and serve a number of cuts from each breed, have them cooked, and carefully reported upon by competent judges. As most people have preconceived notions, therefore each breed should be numbered and the number of each only known to the executive, who have this work in charge. All this work could be performed and reliable reports obtained at a cost or loss not exceeding \$100, perhaps for half of this sum. I have no doubt but that the William Davies Company, the Ingersoll Packing Company, George Morris, of London, and Messrs. Yapp & Foulds, of Brantford, would willingly assist in this work, also some of our leading clubs and hotels. For many reasons, too many people cannot be interested in these undertakings. It is highly important that an interest in such matters be aroused among Canadian farmers. It costs as much to send a poor carcass to England as a good one. A poor carcass is almost invariably sold at a loss to the producer and is an injury to the country at large, therefore "The Greatest Quantity of the Best Quality" must be our national motto. Five-sixths of all that our lands produce is fed to live stock. If this stock is inferior the loss is incalculable.

Ontario is the only Province in Canada where a winter fair of a highly educational character is held. To this show all the persons engaged for the season to address Farmers' Institute meetings are brought and their expenses paid on condition that each attend all the lectures delivered during the show. Nothing but expert judges are chosen to judge and these are required to lecture before the various audiences, stating why they made the awards and outlining the demand of the markets. In addition, clever men of wide experience are brought from the various Agricultural Stations, both Canadian and American, to deliver special addresses on important live stock topics. The large exporters are interested and induced to judge and lecture. This plan has been productive of splendid results.

Should not something of this sort be commenced in every province of Canada? I commend such an undertaking to the various Provincial Live Stock Associations and Provincial Governments.

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Raymer & Co.  
Dealer in all kinds of  
GRANITE and MARBLE  
HEADSTONES,  
MONUMENTS,  
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Prices quoted  
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# Western Homes

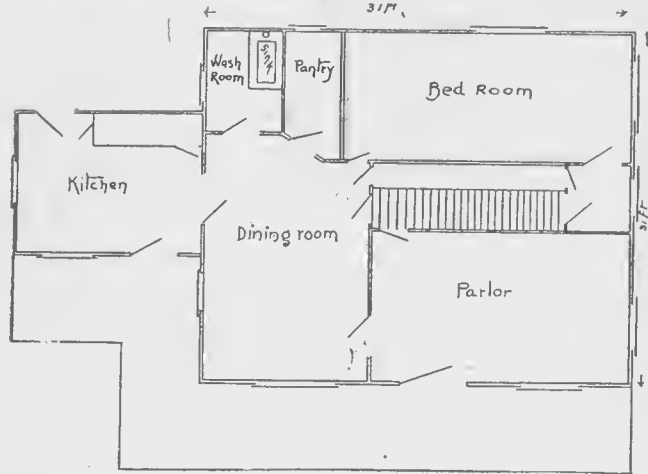
ILLUSTRATED.

HOW, WHEN AND  
WHERE  
THEY ARE BUILT.

We present our readers this issue with a photo and plans of both floors of T. S. Rogers' house, which is to be found three and one-half miles north of Carberry. The house was built by day work and the approximate cost was about \$2,200. The main part of the house is 31x31 ft., with a kitchen 14x16. It is set on a stone foundation, which comes 18 inches above the surface of the ground. The walls rise above the foundation 19 ft. 4 in. to the eaves. The house is a brick veneer and, as will be seen from the accompanying illustration, presents a very fine appearance. Reference to the plan of the ground floor will show how it is laid off. The kitchen, with stairway both down cellar and upstairs, is commodious. The dining room has a large pantry and wash room containing sink opening off it. Parlor and a downstairs bed room are also provided as well as hallway and stairs. The second floor shows the room over the kitchen used as a store room, while the main part of the house contains four good

during the winter for drying clothes. Many a house could have this convenience by simply raising the side walls a few feet when building. The extra cost is small and the women folks will vote the convenience well worth it during a cold winter. The house is heated by the kitchen stove and by a furnace in the cellar, which as yet has not been divided.

What may be termed a genuine novelty could be seen from town on the night of



Ground Plan of T. S. Rogers' House.



Farm Home of T. S. Rogers, Carberry, Man.

bed rooms, sitting room, hallway and stairs to the attic. Mr. Rogers has been careful to provide a good closet in each bed room. A closet is a most convenient thing in a bed room and in planning a new house it is one of the little things

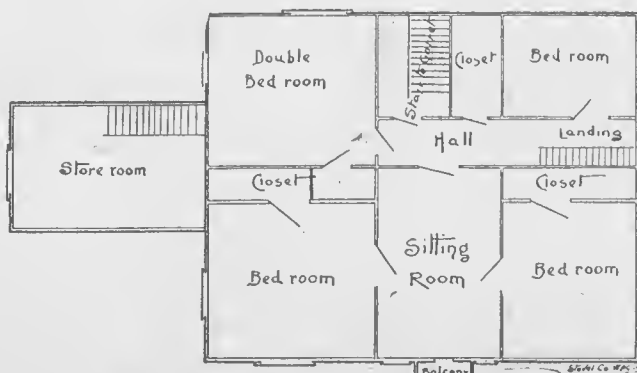
that should receive considerable attention. As a general thing there cannot be too many cupboards and closets in a house and every opportunity should be taken advantage of to work in one. Mr. Rogers has the attic floored so that it can be used

January 6th. A prairie fire of considerable extent was burning northeast of Cartwright. A prairie fire in January!—Review.

The more successful a mercantile or manufacturing business is to-day the more closely are the little economies connected with such business looked after. Ignorance is the mother of agricultural wastes. Education will foster and promote farm economies.

T. H. Jackson, recent Conservative candidate at Minnedosa, has sold his homestead, W. hf. 31, 15, 17, highly improved, to Woodcock Bros., neighbors, for \$10,000. Mr. Jackson has great confidence in the rich soils north of Minnedosa and owns a good deal of land there still.

It is reported that considerable homesteading has been done in the ranching country in Southern Alberta. In the Pincher Creek district 125 homesteads were entered last year and more than that, many persons arrived with the intention of taking up homesteads and have, doubtless, done so by this time.



Chamber Plan of T. S. Rogers' House.



## Some Experiments at Brandon.

S. A. Bedford, Superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm, sends The Farmer the following tables, showing the results of some of last year's experiments. The experiment bearing on rotation of crops bears out what is already well known—that the rotation that has roots for one or more of its crops will give the best returns. Mr. Bedford's experiments go to show that a rotation of all grain, or with fallow and grain, are not in it with the one that brings in roots. No stronger lesson is needed in favor of mixed farming. Of course, it is out of the question to put a fifth of the land, now worked, into roots and another fifth into corn. But a good big acreage could be put in and more stock kept. If this were done, the returns from the farm would be larger than they are at present. The following are the tabulated statements:—

**OATS.**  
These plots are also very uniform in their results, both varieties giving the maximum yield in the third sowing and gradually lessening each week. The same results were obtained in regard to the weight per bushel.

These tables show that wheat cannot be sown too early, if the land is in fit condition, but oats should not be sown until the weather has moderated and the soil has had a week or two to warm up.

This is the first year in which Abundance oats have so nearly equalled Banner in productive-ness. Generally speaking the Banner gives much the larger yields.

Variety.	When Sown.	When Ripe.	No. Days Maturing.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bushel.
Banner	May 1	Aug. 17	108	94-24	35 1/2
"	May 8	Aug. 24	108	91-26	35 1/2
"	May 15	Aug. 29	106	93-24	40
"	May 22	Sept. 3	104	95-10	39
"	May 29	Sept. 7	107	87-12	38
Abundance	May 1	Aug. 18	109	92-12	39
"	May 8	Aug. 24	108	91-26	35 1/2
"	May 15	Aug. 29	106	93-24	40
"	May 22	Sept. 2	103	92-22	35 1/2
"	May 29	Sept. 5	99	87-02	37

## ROTATION PLOTS COVERING FOUR YEARS.

No. Crop.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	Total
	Busbels.	Busbels.	Busbels.	Busbels.	Busbels.	Value.
1	Wheat. . . . . 45-50	22 50	Turnips . . . . . 45-03	22 65	Wheat. . . . . 22-00	44 00
2	Wheat. . . . . 22-30	11 25	Oats . . . . . 83-23	20 95	Wheat. . . . . 60-20	15 14
3	Barley. . . . . 38-26	9 63	Wheat. . . . . 28-30	14 25	Wheat. . . . . 40-20	10 10
4	Wheat. . . . . 16-30	8 25	Wheat. . . . . 33-40	16 83	Wheat. . . . . 27-50	13 91
5	Wheat. . . . . 45-50	22 91	Fallow . . . . .		Fallow . . . . .	
6	Fallow. . . . .		Wheat. . . . . 36-40	18 33	Wheat. . . . . 35-00	17 50
7	Fallow. . . . .		Wheat. . . . . 34-10	17 08	Wheat. . . . . 33-30	16 75
8	Fallow. . . . .		Wheat. . . . . 28-50	14 41	Fallow . . . . .	

## DIFFERENT WAYS OF PREPARING LAND FOR A GRAIN CROP.

Variety and How Treated.	No. Days Maturing.	Length of Straw.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Red Fife, summer fallowed	119	41	210	41-10	61
Red Fife, fall plowed . . .	113	38	285	38-10	62 1/2
Red Fife, spring plowed . .	116	43	290	36-40	61 1/2

## LEGUMES AND OTHER CROPS AS A PREPARATION FOR COARSE GRAIN

Variety and Previous Crop.	No. Days Maturing.	Length of Straw.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Mensury Barley, Soja Beans	87	33	330	63-6	50
" Horse Beans . . . . .	87	34	278	59-8	50
" Summer fallow. . . . .	86	31	325	58-16	48
" Millet . . . . .	87	33	281	49-23	50
" Barley . . . . .	87	36	250	49-8	51 1/2
Banner Oats, Summer fallow . . . . .	105	43	380	104-4	39 1/2
Banner Oats, Pease . . . . .	105	42	330	96-6	39
" Barley . . . . .	102	40	310	94-24	42
" Clover . . . . .	102	41	290	80-20	39
" Buckwheat . . . . .	102	43	280	76-16	39

## GRAIN SOWN AT DIFFERENT DATES.

It is usual to sow a plot each week, for six weeks, commencing from the time when the land is first ready in spring, but when the sixth plot should have been sown the land was so wet that the drills could not be worked for some days; so the last sowing had to be abandoned.

### WHEAT.

The wheats show a remarkable uniformity; the yields from both varieties decrease in regular ratio from the first sowing. The difference between the first and last plot of Red Fife being just 13 bushels, and only 40 pounds less with Stanley. The last sown Red Fife was the only one frozen. This is indicated very clearly by the weight per bushel.

Variety.	When Sown.	When Ripe.	No. Days Maturing.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bushel.
Red Fife	May 1	Aug. 24	115	38-20	61
"	May 8	Aug. 29	113	34-40	60 1/2
"	May 15	Sept. 2	110	32-40	59 1/2
"	May 22	Sept. 5	106	29-20	59 1/2
"	May 29	Sept. 11	105	25-20	52
Stanley	May 1	Aug. 20	111	33-59	59
"	May 8	Aug. 24	108	30-30	58 1/2
"	May 15	Aug. 27	104	28-58	58 1/2
"	May 22	Sept. 1	102	23-58	58 1/2
"	May 29	Sept. 6	100	20-40	58 1/2

## FODDER CORN. (Twelve Best Varieties.)

This splendid fodder plant continues to give excellent crops of well-matured fodder, and the ensilage from it is greedily eaten by the cattle.

For some years numerous substitutes have been tried for corn, among them English horse beans, oats and peas, Soja beans and rye, but none of them equal Indian corn for productiveness or quality.

Variety and Condition When Cut.	Height, Inches.	Weight Per Acre Grown in Rows.
Champion White Pearl . . . . .	Tassel 94	26 1900
Longfellow . . . . .	" 88	24 620
Mammoth Cuban . . . . .	" 88	20 920
Early Mastodon . . . . .	" 88	20 40
Eureka . . . . .	" 89	19 1820
Extra Early Szekely . . . . .	" 89	19 1820
Cloud's Early Yellow . . . . .	" 85	19 1600
King of the Earliest . . . . .	" 87	19 500
Compton's Early . . . . .	" 87	19 500
Country Gentleman . . . . .	" 83	18 1400
Red Coh Ensilage . . . . .	" 61	18 1400
Mammoth, 8-rowed Flint . . . . .	" 80	18 300

## THE MOST PRODUCTIVE 25 VARIETIES OF POTATOES IN 1899.

These were planted on land which proved to be too low for the season, and a number of varieties were seriously injured and others did not germinate at all.

The yields are estimated from one row, 66 feet long. All were planted on the 23rd of May and dug on October 2nd.

Variety, When Matured, and Quality.	Total Bushels
Irish Daisy—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	338-40
Troy Seedling—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	338-40
Clay Rose—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	381-20
Penn Manor—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	377-40
Maule's Thoroughbred—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	377-40
Burnaby Seedling—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	370-20
Dreer's Standard—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	355-40
General Gordon—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	344-40
Bill Nye—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	333-40
Maggie Murphy—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	333-40
Freeman—Sept. 11—Fair . . . . .	333-40
Vanier—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	333-40
Green Mountain—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	330
McKenzie—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	330
Carman, No. 1—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	330
Flemish Beauty—Not ripe—Fair . . . . .	330
Lizzie's Pride—Sept. 15—Good . . . . .	330
Brownell's Winner—Not ripe—Fair . . . . .	330
Rural Blush—Not ripe—Fair . . . . .	330
Early Puritan—Sept. 20—Fair . . . . .	330
American Giant—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	326-20
Satisfaction—Not ripe—Poor . . . . .	322-40
Reeve's Rose—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	322-40
State of Maine—Not ripe—Good . . . . .	320-50
Clarke's No. 1—Sept. 10—Fair . . . . .	319

## FIELD ROOTS.

The following tables give the returns obtained from some of the best varieties of field roots tested during the past season. All were sown in level drills; the rows were only twenty-four inches apart this year; this is one-third closer than turnips, mangels or sugar beets are generally sown, and is much too narrow for horse culture.

The land had been in roots for five years, but the kind of root was changed each year.

In every instance the first sowing gave the largest results.

### TURNIPS.

(The 12 Most Productive Varieties.)

Varieties.	Sown May 20, 1st Sowing.	Sown June 3, 2nd Sowing.
	bsh. lbs.	bsh. lbs.
Mammoth Clyde . . . . .	797-30	676-30
Hartley's Bronze . . . . .	748	621-30
Champion Purple Top . . . . .	720-30	566-30
Carter's Elephant . . . . .	709-30	412-30
Monarch . . . . .	632-30	357-30
Imperial Swede . . . . .	616	379-30
Shamrock Purple Top . . . . .	599-30	467-30
Prize Purple Top . . . . .	588-30	577-30
Bangholm Selected . . . . .	583-30	445-30
Hall's Westbury . . . . .	583-30	550
Silvering's . . . . .	583	511-30
East Lothian . . . . .	572	385

## MANGELS.

(Twelve Best Varieties.)

These have given a good return, considering the dry fall. They are found one of the most useful on the farm, all classes of stock being fond of them, and, if pulled in good season and stored in a cool place, they will keep perfectly sound until spring.

The seed of the second sowing did not germinate.

Varieties.	Sown May 20, 1st Sowing.	Sown June 3, 2nd Sowing.
	Busb. Lbs.	Busb. Lbs.
Northern Giant . . . . .	1177	
Yellow Intermediate . . . . .	1177	
Mammoth Long Red . . . . .	1160	30
Lion Yellow Intermediate . . . . .	1144	
Giant Yellow Intermediate . . . . .	1127	30
Ward's Large Oval Shaped . . . . .	1122	
Mammoth Oval Shaped . . . . .	1111	
Mammoth Yellow Intermediate . . . . .	1100	
Prize Mammoth Long Red . . . . .	1100	
Selected Mammoth Long Red . . . . .	1083	30
New Giant Yellow Half Long . . . . .	1061	30
Yellow Fleshed Tankard . . . . .	1045	

## SUGAR BEETS.

Much interest is being taken just now in growing this root for sugar making, and the following varieties include the best for this purpose.

They are, however, used on this farm for feeding calves, and surpass both mangels and turnips for this purpose, being more readily eaten.

Varieties.	Sown May 20, 1st Sowing.	Sown June 3, 2nd Sowing.
	Busb. Lbs.	Busb. Lbs.
Wanzleben . . . . .	1160 30	
Danish Improved . . . . .	1149 30	676 30
Danish Imp. Red Top . . . . .	1028 30	929 30
Vilmorin's Improved . . . . .	891	511 30
Improved Imperial . . . . .	885 30	682 00
Red Top Sugar . . . . .	863 30	737

## CARROTS.

The following are the twelve most productive kinds sown this year. This root is found excellent for horses during our long Manitoba winters.

Varieties.	Sown May 20, 1st Sowing.	Sown June 3, 2nd Sowing.
	Busb. Lbs.	Busb. Lbs.
Mammoth White Intermediate . . . . .	643 30	456 30
Ontario Champion . . . . .	638	478 30
Half Long White . . . . .	605	363 30
Giant White Vosses . . . . .	594	500 30
New White Intermediate . . . . .	594	346 30
Iverson's Champion . . . . .	583	489 30
Long Yellow, Stump Rooted . . . . .	561	445 30
Green Top White . . . . .		
Orthe . . . . .	555 30	418
Improved Short White . . . . .	506	429
Yellow Intermediate . . . . .	500 30	385
Guerande or Ox Heart . . . . .	495	401 30
Early Gem . . . . .	451	379 30



## GRASSES.

The past season has been a favorable one for grasses, and the crop was a very fine one. A large proportion of the Brome grass was cut for seed, and about 4,000 pounds of seed was saved.

Brome Grass Sown on Spring Plowed Stubble.  
Sown June, 1898.

Condition When Cut.		Yield Dry
		Tons. Lbs.
Brome on sandy loam	Ripe for seed	4-60
Brome on clay loam	Green for hay	3-1860

Grasses sown on summer fallow during the summer of 1896. The crop of 1897 was so badly injured by drifting soil that it was not worth cutting.

Variety.	Seed		Weight		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Total	
	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.
American Lyme Grass	20	3	1000	1	1200	5	1	200						
Awnless Brome Grass	20	3	500	1	1500	5	1							
Timothy	15	2	500	1	500	3	1000							
Western Rye Grass	20	3	300	1	1400	3	1700							
Timothy and Clover	10	2	300	1	900	3	1200							
Meadow Fescue	30	1	1100	1	80	2	1180							

The following plots of grasses were sown in the spring of 1896 for the purpose of ascertaining the proper quantity of seed to use of each variety.

Variety.	Seed		Weight		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Total	
	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.
Timothy	5	1	1	500	1600	3	100							
"	10	1	670	1	200	1500	3	370						
"	15	1	750	1	1700	1200	2	1650						
"	20	1	700	1	1800	900	2	1400						
Awnless Brome	10	2	350	1	1100	1600	4	1050						
"	15	2	400	1	900	1300	4	200						
"	20	2	400	1	700	1250	5	350						
Western Rye	10	3	400	1	1400	1	250	5	50					
"	15	3	200	1	1300	1	300	5	1900					
"	20	3	300	1	1200	1	400	5	1900					
American Lyme	10	3	2	1000	1	400	6	1400						
"	15	3	555	2	900	1	1950	7	1400					
"	20	3	300	2	300	1	1860	7	660					
Bald Rye or Wheat	10	2	700	2	100	1	1100	5	1900					
"	15	2	700	2	800	1	1400	6	900					
"	20	2	750	2	1800	1	1500	7	50					

As anticipated, the yield has gradually decreased each year.

## AVERAGE FOR THREE YEARS.

1897, the first year's cutting... 2 tons, 686 lbs.  
1898, the second year's cutting... 1 ton, 1481 lbs.  
1899, the third year's cutting... 1 ton, 419 lbs.

## CLOVERS.

The plots sown to clover in 1896 are naturally running out, and several of them have been plowed up. The newly sown plots have wintered well. A test of the use of "Nitragin," a culture of the micro-organisms which form the nodules on the roots of clover, was made. The seed was sown as usual without a nurse crop on spring-plowed stubble, and a perfect stand was obtained and all the plots wintered well. The treated plots gave a yield of 2 tons, 1,950 pounds of clover hay per acre, and the untreated 2 tons, 600 pounds per acre.

## Clover Sown Spring of 1896.

Variety and Thickness of Aftermath.	Seed		Yield		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.		Per Acre.	
	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.	lbs	tns.
Alfalfa, thick	60	2	100	2	1800	1	820					
Red Clover, thick	20	2	900	2	1300	1						
Alsike, fair	20	1	100	1	1200	1	1000					
White Dutch, thin	12				1200							
Mammoth Red, thin	25	1	500	1	1200	1	1000					

## MILLETS.

The season was a fairly good one for this fodder plant, but the field selected was somewhat low for the season, and the crop was injured by flooding. The Siberian millet and broom corn were tried here for the first time.

Variety	When Sown.		When Cut.		Height.		Weight		Per Acre.		Per Acre.	
	When Sown.	When Cut.	When Sown.	When Cut.	Height.	Yield	Weight	Per Acre.	Weight	Per Acre.	Weight	Per Acre.
Japanese Millet	June 6	Sept. 2	June 6	Sept. 2	17 ft.	19-1354						
Siberian	June 6	Aug. 27	June 6	Aug. 27	4	3	326					
Hungarian Grass	June 22	Sept. 1	June 22	Sept. 1	4	2	1200					
White Round French	June 22	Aug. 25	June 22	Aug. 25	4	1	1200					

## BROOM CORN.

Variety	When Sown.		When Cut.		Height.		Weight		Per Acre.		Per Acre.	
	When Sown.	When Cut.	When Sown.	When Cut.	Height.	Yield	Weight	Per Acre.	Weight	Per Acre.	Weight	Per Acre.
Broom Corn	June 21	Sept. 22	June 21	Sept. 22	17 ft.	19-1354						
Broom Corn	June 28	Sept. 22	June 28	Sept. 22	17 ft.	18-1250						

## MIXED AND UNMIXED GRAIN CROP.

It is claimed by many that more grain can be grown by sowing several kinds together than from the same kinds sown separate. A very full test has been made along this line during the past season with the result that the returns were practically the same from both methods. Ripe Aug. 26.

Plot, Kind of Grain and Variety.	Straw		Yield of Grain		Average	
	Lbs.	Per Plot.	Lbs.	Per Acre.	Lbs.	Per Acre.
1 Pease—Daniel O'Rourke	2020					
2 Oats—Bavarian	295	2520			2,235	
3 Barley—Kniver Chevalier	295	2340				
4 Wheat—Stanley	235	1720				
5 Half Barley—Kniver Chevalier and half Oats—Bavarian	250	2240				
6 Third Barley—Kniver Chevalier; third Pease—Daniel O'Rourke, and third Bavarian	220	2360			2,280	
7 Quarter Barley—Kniver Chevalier; quarter Pease—Daniel O'Rourke; quarter Oats Bavarian, and quarter Wheat—Stanley	260	2040				

## 1899 Experiments at Indian Head.

By Angus McKay, Superintendent.

## SPRING WHEAT.

## Test of Different Varieties Sown on Same Date.

Fifty-four varieties were sown on April 27; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill, at rate of 1½ bushels per acre.

Variety and Kind of Head.		Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.		Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.			Weight Per Bush.
				in.	in.		lbs.	bsh.	lb.	
Red Fife. . . . .	Bald	Sept. 4	131	45	3	4020	39—40		63½	
Nepha . . . . .	*Aug. 31	127	44	3	3280	38—20			62	
Redfern . . . . .	*Sept. 4	131	45	3	3200	38—20			60	
Wellman's Fife										
Bald . . . . .		Sept. 6	133	48	3	3620	36—20		62½	
Dion's . . . . .	*Sept. 4	131	46	3	5580	35—00			63½	
Huron . . . . .	*Sept. 3	130	40	3½	3700	35—00			63½	
Hungarian. . . . .	*Sept. 4	131	42	3	3600	34—40			63½	
Rio Grande . . . . .	*Sept. 2	129	46	3	4240	34—20			63	
Roumanian . . . . .	*Sept. 2	129	48	3	2560	34—20			64	
Monarch . . . . .	Bald	Sept. 4	131	43	3½	4820	34—20		62½	
*Bearded.										

\*Bearded.

## Test of Early, Medium and Late Seeding.

Seedings one week apart; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill at rate of 1½ bushels per acre.

Variety.	Date Sown.	Date Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Red Fife	Apr. 26	Sept. 5	133	47	3	5740	36-00	63½
Red Fife	May 9	Sept. 9	124	46	3	5600	30-00	60½
Red Fife	May 10	Sept. 9	123	45	3	5140	31-00	60
Red Fife	May 17	Sept. 11	118	46	3	5500	35-00	60½
Red Fife	May 24	Sept. 11	111	44	3	5440	32-40	61
Red Fife	May 31	Sept. 13	106	43	3	4040	23-20	60½
Stanley	Apr. 26	Sept. 5	133	44	3½	3760	30-40	62½
Stanley	May 9	Sept. 9	121	43	3	3340	27-40	62½
Stanley	May 10	Sept. 7	121	43	3	4480	25-20	61
Stanley	May 17	Sept. 9	116	43	3	3720	21-20	60½
Stanley	May 24	Sept. 11	111	44	3	3540	21-00	60
Stanley	May 31	Sept. 11	104	43	3	3940	24-20	57

Note.—The seeding, which should have been done on May 3, was postponed until May 9, on account of snow.

## Seeding with Hoe Drill vs. Press Drill.

Seed, Red Fife; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each, sown at rate of 1½ bush. per acre.

Sown by	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Press Drill	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	133	43	3	5060	35-40	62
Hoe Drill	Apr. 27	Sept. 5	132	43	3	4440	36-00	62

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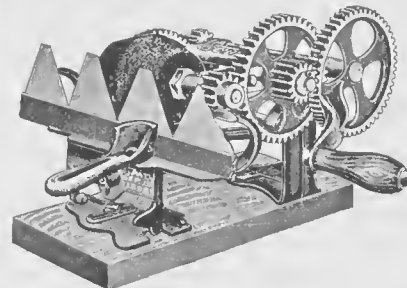
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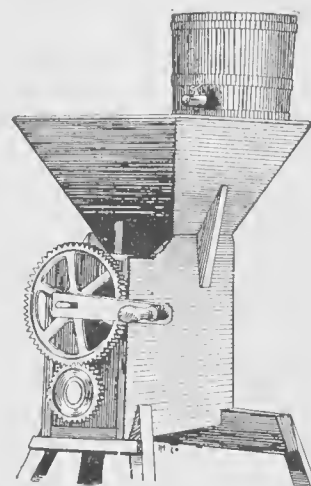
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As grain which contains smut is unfit for seed, and must be treated with a solution of Eluestone or Formalin to destroy the growth of fungi before it can be used for seed purposes, I claim that my invention facilitates the treatment of the grain with this solution in a thorough, complete and satisfactory manner. It is no experiment—a tried machine of three seasons. It has a double screw, one passing the grain through, the other bringing it back, thereby insuring the treatment of every berry. No other machine on the market has a double screw. Capacity 40 bus. per hour. Write for further information and prices to

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Test of Sowing Different Quantities of Seed Per Acre.  
Seed, Red Fyfe; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by Hoe Drill.

Fushels Seed Per Ac.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
1 1/2	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	135	44	3	4790	35-20	62	62
1 1/4	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	135	44	3	4700	35-20	62	62
1	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	130	43	3	4700	35-20	62	62

Test of Sowing Seed at Different Depths.  
Seed, Red Fyfe; sown by Hoe Drill on 1-20 acre plots; clay loam soil, summer fallow in 1898.

Inches Deep.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
3	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	135	44	3	4790	35-20	62	62
2	Apr. 27	Sept. 8	135	43	3	4420	37-40	62	62

Acre and Field Lots.  
Soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow and stubble tests, sown by hoe drill.

Variety.	No. of Acres.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Red Fyfe, fallow	3	May 1	Sept. 1	128	46	3	3680	33-20	62	62
Stanley, fallow	3	Apr. 29	Sept. 1	128	44	3	3510	32-24	62	62
Preston, fallow	3	Apr. 27	Sept. 1	125	47	3	3400	32-24	62	62
Wellman's Fife, st	3	Apr. 27	Sept. 1	125	47	3	3400	32-24	62	62
Percy, fallow	3	Apr. 26	Sept. 1	125	46	3	3400	32-24	62	62
Red Fyfe, stubble	3	Apr. 26	Sept. 1	125	46	3	3400	32-24	62	62
Wellman's Fife	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
White Fife	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
Hungarian	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
Dawn	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
White Russian	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
White Connell	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
Beauty	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
Harold	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62
Redfern	1	May 1	Sept. 1	128	48	3	4540	36-00	62	62

## OATS.

Test of Different Varieties Sown Same Date.  
Seventy-two varieties sown on May 12th; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill at rate of 2 1/2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Date Sown.	Date Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Golden Beauty	Sept. 7	119	52	14	3580	97-22	38	38	38
Abundance	Aug. 39	111	50	8	6100	97-22	38	38	38
Holstein Prolific	Aug. 30	111	48	8	5900	97-22	40	40	40
Bavarian	Aug. 30	111	48	8	5620	96-16	38	38	38
Banner	Aug. 30	111	55	9	4540	95-30	40	40	40
New Zealand	Sept. 8	120	50	11	4760	95-10	38	38	38
Am. Triumph	Aug. 29	110	51	9	4920	93-18	39	39	39
Am. Beauty	Aug. 29	111	51	9	4040	92-32	40	40	40
Siberian O. A. C.	Sept. 7	119	56	11	4200	92-12	39	39	39
Danish Island	Aug. 30	111	49	10	4720	91-26	39	39	39

Test of Early, Medium and Late Sowing.  
Seedings, one week apart; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill at rate of 2 1/2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Date Sown.	Date Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Banner	Apr. 26	Aug. 26	123	45	9	3080	63-08	40	40
Banner	May 9	Aug. 30	114	48	10	2720	73-30	40	40
Banner	May 10	Aug. 31	114	48	10	2720	73-30	40	40
Banner	May 17	Sept. 7	112	53	11	3700	74-04	40	40
Banner	May 24	Sept. 14	107	49	9	3200	73-16	40	40
Banner	May 31	Sept. 21	107	49	9	2940	70-10	40	40
Abundance	Apr. 26	Aug. 26	123	46	9	3040	75-10	40	40
Abundance	May 9	Aug. 31	115	49	9	2920	73-28	40	40
Abundance	May 10	Sept. 1	115	48	9	3040	63-28	40	40
Abundance	May 17	Sept. 7	114	47	9	2840	75-10	40	40
Abundance	May 24	Sept. 14	107	47	9	2740	73-08	39	39
Abundance	May 31	Sept. 21	100	44	9	2780	81-06	40	40

Note.—The seeding, which should have been done on May 3rd, was postponed until May 9th, on account of snow.

Acre and Field Lots.  
Soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; sown by hoe drill, at rate of 2 1/2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Acres.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Am. Beauty	2	May 13	Aug. 29	109	49	10	4080	91-14	40	40
Columbus	2	May 13	Aug. 29	105	46	8	4010	86-12	38	38
Banner	2	May 11	Aug. 28	110	47	9	4210	84-00	41	41
Abundance	2	May 12	Aug. 26	106	47	8	4040	79-00	43	43
Pavarian	2	May 11	Aug. 26	108	45	9	5000	79-00	37	37
Imp. Ligowo	2	May 12	Sept. 7	119	56	9	5100	73-14	38	38
Holstein Pro.	1	May 13	Aug. 29	109	48	9	5300	86-26	40	40
Oderbruch	1	May 13	Sept. 4	115	54	11	4000	78-23	40	40
Sheridan, O. A. C.	1	May 13	Sept. 5	116	53	11	3980	76-26	39	39
W. Schonen	1	May 13	Aug. 29	109	48	10	5000	68-15	40	40
Bonanza	1	May 13	Aug. 29	101	39	9	3190	64-24	44	44
Welcome	1	May 13	Aug. 23	103	39	9	4250	61-31	38	38

## BARLEY.

## Two-Rowed.

Test of Different Varieties Sown on Same Date.  
Twenty-two varieties sown on May 19th; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill at rate of 2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Danish Chevelle	Aug. 30	104	36	4	4000	69-32	53	53
French Chevelle	Aug. 31	105	35	4	2340	65-40	53	53
Sidney	Aug. 30	104	33	3	4140	63-36	54	54
Canadian Thorpe	Aug. 24	98	40	3	4580	58-36	53	53
Bolton	Aug. 24	98	33	3	4000	58-16	55	55
Dunham	Aug. 24	98	40	4	5260	57-04	54	54
Thonet	Sept. 2	113	35	4	3960	57-04	52	52
Prize Prolific	Sept. 3	113	34	3	4480	56-32	52	52
Leslie	Aug. 21	95	34	3	5120	55-40	53	53
Beaver	Aug. 29	103	33	2	4940	55-20	53	53

The above are all bearded.

## Six-Rowed.

Test of Different Varieties Sown on Same Date.  
Thirty varieties, sown on May 18th; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill, at rate of 2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Rennie's Imp.	Aug. 17	92	32	3	3660	69-28	52	52
Trooper	Aug. 17	94	32	2	4480	69-08	52	52
Claude	Aug. 24	99	35	2	4200	69-08	50	50
Argyle	Aug. 19	94	34	2	3900	68-36	52	52
Mansfield	Aug. 19	94	33	2	2400	66-32	52	52
Blue	Aug. 18	93	33	2	3440	65-32	50	50
Baxter's	Aug. 18	93	33	2	3500	63-24	52	52
Summit	Aug. 18	94	33	2	3500	63-24	54	54
Mensury	Aug. 18	93	36	3	3810	62-04	52	52
Empire	Aug. 19	94	30	2	3660	61-12	53	53

The above are all bearded varieties.

Test of Early, Medium and Late Seeding.  
Seedings, one week apart; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre each; sown by hoe drill, at rate of 2 bushels per acre.

Variety.	Date Sown.	Date Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
6-Rowed	Apr. 26	Aug. 14	111	30	2	4340	63-36	49	49
Odessa	May 9	Aug. 26	110	30	2	3200	56-12	51	51
Odessa	May 10	Aug. 28	111	30	2	3140	55-20	51	51
Odessa	May 17	Aug. 31	107	29	2	3160	55-00	51	51
Odessa	May 24	Sept. 1	101	30	2	3560	55-00	51	51
Odessa	May 31	Sept. 4	97	29	2	3780	54-28	50	50
2-Rowed	Apr. 26	Aug. 26	123	34	3	5900	56-12	52	52
Thorpe	May 9	Aug. 31	115	36	3	3900	52-04	52	52
"	May 10	Aug. 31	114	36	3	4260	52-44	52	52
"	May 17	Sept. 1	108	37	3	4080	52-24	52	52
"	May 24	Sept. 7	107	37	3	4140	51-12	51	51
"	May 31	Sept. 8	101	33	3	4200	50-00	49	49

Note.—The seeding, which should have been done on May 3, was postponed on account of snow.

Acre and Field Lots.  
Soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; sown by hoe drill, at rate of 2 bushels seed per acre.

Variety.	Acres.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Head.	Weight of Straw.	Weight of Head.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
Can'd'n	5	May 13	Aug. 30	110	47	3	5940	54-00	52	52
Thorpe	5	May 13	Sept. 4	115	43	3	4120	48-00	54	54
Trooper	3	May 17	Aug. 30	106	44	2	4030	47-42	52	52
Odessa	5	May 9	Aug. 18	102	28	2	3570	42-36	52	52
Royal	1	May 17	Aug. 21	97	32	2	3420	60-24	52	52
Baxter's	1	May 17	Aug. 24	100	31	2	3400	56-22	52	52
Rennie's	1	May 17	Aug. 24	100	47	2	4100	52-00	52	52
Imp'd	1	May 17	Aug. 24	100	47	2	4100	52-00	52	52
Can'd'n	1	May 20	Aug. 25	98	27	3	3640	51-16	52	52
Thorpe	1	May 20	Aug. 25	98	27	3	3640	51-16	52	52
French	1	May 8	Aug. 24	109	33	4	3000	51-14	52	52
Chev'l'r	1	May 8	Aug. 15	101	30	2	2900	47-42	54	54
Oderb'h	1	May 9	Aug. 15	101	30	2	3420	47-45	52	52
Mensury	1	May 8	Aug. 26	111	35	3	4100	38-14	53	53
Beaver	1	May 17	Aug. 19	95	33	3	3640	34-44	52	52
Com'on	1	May 8	Aug. 16	101	31	3	*	*	*	*
Bolton	1	May 8	Aug. 16	101	31	3	*	*	*	*

\*Cut and threshed for feed.

## PEASE.

Test of Different Varieties Sown on Same Date.

Fifty-nine varieties sown on May 10th; soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, 1-20 acre, sown by hoe drill, at rate of, small, 2 bushels, medium, 2 1/2 bushels, and large, 3 bushels per acre.

Variety and Size.	Pulled.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Length of Pod.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.	Weight Per Bush.
			in.	in.	lbs	bus	lbs
Grey Spring, small	Sept. 3	117	40	2	4200	38-32	64
Crown, small. . .	Aug. 28	111	44	2	3060	35-40	65
Picton, large . . .	Sept. 7	121	47	2	3800	38-00	64
Chelsea, medium	Sept. 6	120	45	3	3100	35-00	64
Carleton, medium	Sept. 2	116	50	3	3520	34-40	64
Wis'n Blue, small	Sept. 3	117	35	2	3140	34-40	65
Macoun, medium	Sept. 4	118	50	3	4240	34-20	64
Archer, medium	Sept. 6	120	43	2	3540	34-20	64
Trilby, medium . .	Sept. 4	118	40	3	4940	34-00	63

## Oats.

Doncaster Prize—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 1 hour.	
Doncaster Prize, 4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 15 min.	
Rennie's Prize, 4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 1 hour.	
Rennie's Prize, 4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 15 min.	
Imported Irish, 4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 1 hour.	
Imported Irish, 4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 15 min.	
Bavarian—4 oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, sprinkled .....	
Bavarian—4 oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 15 min. ....	
Wideawake—9 oz. formalin, 10 gals. water 10 bush. seed, sprinkled .....	
Wideawake—9 oz. formalin, 10 gals. water 10 bush. seed, dipped 5 minutes ...	

No trace of smut was found in any of these plots.

## Barley.

Royal—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 1 hour. ....	No smut.
Royal—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 5 min. ....	No smut.
Royal—Untreated .....	10
Bolton—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 15 min. ....	No smut.
Bolton—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, sprinkled. ....	No smut.
Baxter's—4½ oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, dipped 5 min. ....	8
Baxter's—9 oz. formalin, 10 gals. water, 10 bush. seed, sprinkled. ....	No smut.

## EXPERIMENTS WITH INDIAN CORN.

Test of Varieties Sown in Rows and Planted in Hills.  
Soil, clay loam; cultivation, root land of 1898; 30 varieties, sown on May 29; plots 1-110 acre each; cut September 9.

Variety.	Height in Inches.	Date in Tassel.	Condition When Out.	Yield Per Acre.
				Rows. Hills.
Canada W. Flint.	65	Aug. 28	Tassel	12-420 10-1350
Early Mastadon	78	not		12-200 16-330
Early Butler	70	Aug. 26	Silk	11-770 10-900
Mam. 8-rwd Flint	62	Aug. 28	Silk	11-200 10-900
Cloud's E. Yellow	67	Aug. 26	Silk	10-1450 10-1670
N. Dakota White.	64	Aug. 26	Silk	10-1350 8-1600
Red Cob Ensilage	84	not		10-900 13-730
Evergreen Sugar	68	Aug. 26	Silk	10-900 12-750
Pearce's Prolific	60	Aug. 29	Tassel	10-570 8-1330
Rural T.W. Flint	69	Aug. 26	Silk	10-350 12-1520

Test of Sowing in Rows Different Distances Apart.  
Soil, cultivation, etc., same as in test of varieties.

Variety.	Distance in inches.	Date in Tassel.	Condition When Out.	Yield Per Acre.
				Height in Inches. Yield Per Acre.
Selected Leaming	21	Aug. 30	Tassel	69 16-1180
Selected Leaming	28	Aug. 30	Tassel	76 14-1420
Selected Leaming	35	not		64 10-1500
Selected Leaming	42	Sep. 4	Tassel	66 10-1970
Longfellow	21	Aug. 28	Tassel	65 10-1310
Longfellow	28	Aug. 28	Tassel	69 9-1800
Longfellow	35	Aug. 28	Tassel	65 9-1800
Longfellow	42	Aug. 28	Tassel	63 10-1210
Champion White Pearl	21	not		65 12-1160
Champion White Pearl	28	not		59 10-1220
Champion White Pearl	35	not		63 8-630
Champion White Pearl	42	not		60 7-1090

## ROTATION TEST—FIRST YEAR.

Soil, clay loam; cultivation, summer fallow; plots, half acre each.

Plot Seeded With	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.
				in. lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5220	36-06
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5100	35-40
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5300	36-00
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5190	35-46
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5140	35-46
Pease, Garden Vine	May 19	Plowed				under July 20th.
Tares, White	May 19	Plowed				under July 20th.
Soja Beans	May 19	Plowed				under July 20th.
Clover, Com'n Red.	May 22	Plowed				under Sept. 10.
Alsike & Lucerne.	May 22	Plowed				under Sept. 10.
Rape	May 22	Plowed				under Aug. 15.
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5000	36-06
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	4960	35-36
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5110	35-40
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5190	36-00
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5000	35-20
Oats, Banner.	May 8	Aug. 28	113	50	4240	35-00
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5110	36-16
Oats, Banner	May 8	Aug. 28	113	50	4000	36-24
Wheat, Red Fife	Apr. 25	Sept. 2	131	48	5200	36-00
Barley, C. Thorpe	May 8	Aug. 24	109	43	4200	46-00
Rye, Spring	Apr. 27	Sept. 6	133	50	2670	41-00

## GREEN MANURING TEST.

The green crops were sown in spring of 1898; land, stubble, gang-plowed 4 inches deep before seeding. When the various crops had attained their maximum growth they were plowed down and the plots were harrowed. The check plot of fallow was plowed 7 inches deep and cultivated several times in 1898. Soil, clay loam; seed, Red Fife wheat; plots, half acre each; sown by hoe drill at rate of 1½ bushels per acre.

Green Crop Sown in 1898.	Wheat Sown, 1898.	Wheat Cut, 1898.	Days to Mature.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.
				lbs. bus 1b	
Bromus Inermis.	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	5110	36-10
Rape	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4930	36-55
Common Red Clover	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4770	33-00
Mammoth Red Clover	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4840	35-50
Alsike	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4920	35-44
Buckwheat	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4740	32-20
Tares	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4700	31-40
Pease	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	4990	35-50
Lucerne	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	5000	33-00
Check plot, sum. fal.	Apr. 25	Aug. 29	127	5100	36-28

## EXPERIMENTS WITH FLAX.

Test of Sowing Different Quantities of Seeds Per Acre on Different Dates.

Seed Per Acre.	Sown.	Ripe.	Days to Mature.	Length of Straw.	Weight of Straw.	Yield Per Acre.
				in. lbs bus. lb		
80 lbs.	May 19	Sept. 7	112	30	210	16-00
40 lbs.	May 19	Sept. 7	112	31	1700	14-40
80 lbs.	May 26	Sept. 9	107	28	2500	21-00
40 lbs.	May 26	Sept. 9	107	32	2300	20-15
80 lbs.	June 2	Sept. 11	102	30	2400	19-20
40 lbs.	June 2	Sept. 11	102	30	2100	18-10
80 lbs.	June 9	Sept. 13	97	30	2500	21-10
40 lbs.	June 9	Sept. 13	97	30	2200	20-10

## HAY.

Awnless Brome Grass (Bromus Inermis).

First cut, (sown, 1898) 2 tons, 490 lbs. per acre.  
Second cut (sown, 1897), 5 tons, 160 lbs. per acre.  
Third cut (sown, 1896) 1 ton, 1745 lbs. per acre.

Western Rye Grass (Agropyrum Tenerum.)

First cut (sown, 1898). 2 tons, 1627 lbs. per acre.

## FODDER CROPS.

Horse Beans.

Sown May 19, cut Sept. 2.

Yield Per Acre.  
In rows 21 in. apart, 38 in. in height, 3 tons, 1800 lbs.  
In rows 28 in. apart, 38 in. in height, 3 tons.  
In rows 35 in. apart, 40 in. in height, 2 tons, 1950 lbs.

## SOJA BEANS.

Sown May 19, cut Sept. 3.

Yield Per Acre.  
In rows 21 in. apart, yield, 2 tons, 300 lbs. per acre.  
In rows 28 in. apart, yield, 2 tons, 1300 lbs. per acre.  
In rows 35 in. apart, yield, 1 ton, 700 lbs. per acre.

## SORGHUM.

Amber Sugar ..... 1 ton, 1200 lbs. per acre.  
Orange Sugar ..... 1 ton, 500 lbs. per acre.

## BROOM CORN.

In rows 21 in. apart, yield, 3 tons, 1300 lbs. per acre.  
In rows 28 in. apart, yield, 2 tons, 1100 lbs. per acre.

## MILLETS.

Seven varieties tested on 1-20 acre plots.

Sown May 27, cut Sept. 13.

Best yield, "Siberian," 4 tons, 1490 lbs. per acre.

## TARES.

Sown May 19, cut for seed Sept. 17.

Yield, 24 20-60 bushels seed per acre.

## BUCKWHEAT.

Four varieties, sown June 3, cut Sept. 3.  
Best yield, "Rye Buckwheat," 20.46 bushels per acre.

## LUPINS.

White and Yellow, sown May 12, a failure.

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## Great Wheat Growers' Convention.

Early last year, as an experiment, a great convention, mainly for the discussion of wheat-growing problems, was held at Fargo, North Dakota, and proved so much a success that it was this year repeated in the last week in January. The State Experiment Station is close to the town, and in connection with it, a farm school, at which are now about 300 pupils, male and female. The officers of the station are also the teachers of the school, with one or two necessary additions to the teaching staff. These officers are all men with youth on their side, have had experience at older stations, and are a host in themselves when agricultural problems are to be discussed. Along with them are combined several men of note from outside points and practical farmers well able to handle and report on such points of practical experience as are suitable to the occasion. Occasionally a paper will be read that the audience finds tedious, but this is an exceptional case. Three sessions per day, forenoon, afternoon and evening, and that for four days in succession, is a pretty strong dose, and the process of digesting such a mass of interesting and valuable information is a severe mental strain. But the proceedings are afterwards printed and everyone present can, for a small payment beforehand, have a copy sent him, from which he can cull points that most concern his own special line of action.

Soil exhaustion and restoration was handled in various ways, and it was almost amusing to find the methods suggested by R. Waugh, of the Nor'-West Farmer, from Winnipeg, repeatedly brought forward at subsequent sessions, by men 300 miles further south. From Fargo to Grand Forks the farms are as a rule large, running from 1,000 acres up to the great bonanza farms with many thousands of acres, all owned by one man. The yield, under almost continuous cropping of wheat, has been gradually running down, and the plan suggested by Mr. Waugh of raising on a large scale crops of Brome grass and corn as the simplest mode of rotation found strong support from men who are already growing close upon 100 acres of corn and feeding that along with the straw from their wheat crop to cattle, which can in this way be well wintered at a cost of \$6, while the land is enriched at the same time by their droppings. This corn growing has been already successfully practiced by men very near the Manitoba line. One of them was able to show a large profit by combined corn-growing and stock-feeding with alternating wheat crops, while from wheat alone his returns paid for very little more than seed and labor.

Brome grass they know very little about, outside what can be seen at experiment stations, but it will be largely used before long. Millet as a crop that can be used instead of black summerfallow, has an excellent reputation both as a means to killing weeds and a rotation with wheat. The millet cut green as cattle feed is very satisfactory, but is found dangerous if fed to horses. Barley serves the same purpose, but it is found that the roots of the millet, if cut on the green side and plowed down immediately become decayed enough to feed a capital crop of wheat next year, which is not the case with barley unless it has been previously manured.

Wheat breeding was very fully handled by Professor Hays, of Minnesota, who has been at work on it for the last ten years and spent part of last summer in Europe visiting the great breeding stations in England, France and Germany. An elaborate paper on the same subject, by Dr. Wilber, of the U.S. Central Station at Washington, was also read.

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**J. A. SIMMERS, Seed Merchant, TORONTO, ONT.**

On the afternoon of the last day President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railroad, who has devoted considerable time and attention to the subject, spoke on the cultivation of trade with China as an opening for the sale of very large quantities of American flour, so creating a demand that would favorably affect the price of wheat on this continent.

A good many of the topics dealt with are as important to the Canadian Northwest as to the farmers of the great spring wheat states. In future issues we shall make use of valuable information on such subjects as smut, the Hessian fly, root growth, etc., which were very ably discussed by the bright young professors of the North Dakota Station. The attendance at this great convention, numbering several hundreds at every session, of bright, capable-looking farmers from a radius of 150 miles and even farther, would have surprised the members of the average Manitoba institute. A still larger turnout for next year is already assured.

### Seed Grain Distribution.

Dr. Saunders, Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, announces that under instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture another distribution of sample packages of the best and most productive sorts of cereals, etc., is now being made. The distribution will consist, as heretofore, of samples of oats, spring wheat, barley, field pease, Indian corn and potatoes. Each sample will weigh three pounds. The quality of the seed will be of the best, the varieties true to name and the packages will be sent free to applicants, through the mail. The object in view is the improvement of the character and quality of the grain, etc., grown in Canada, an effort widely appreciated, and the choice of varieties to be sent out will be confined to those which have been found to succeed well at the Experimental Farms.

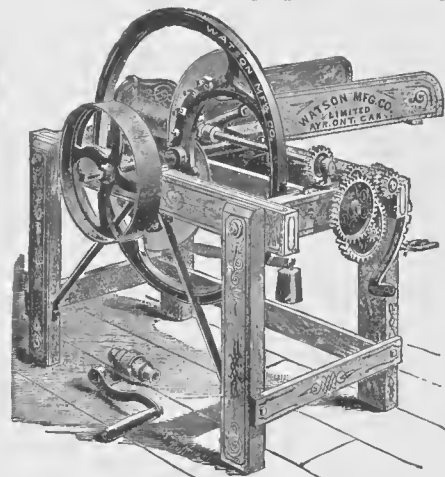
These samples will be sent only to those who apply personally, lists of names from societies or individuals cannot be considered. Only one sample of one sort can be sent to each applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot also receive one of wheat or barley. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent any time before the 15th of March, after which date the lists will be closed, so that the samples asked for may all be sent out in good time for sowing. Parties writing will please mention the sort of grain they would prefer and should the available stock of the variety named be exhausted, some other good sort will be sent in its place. Letters may be sent to the Experimental Farm free of postage.

David Jackson, president of the Newdale creamery, has erected a new barn the past season, 120x88 feet.

Between five and six thousand acres of land are ready for seeding in the Weyburn and Yellow Grass districts. This gives some idea of the settlement that took place there this past season.

The death of George Hope, Jr., which took place at Toronto, where he had gone for a change of air, has been much felt in Carberry, where he was well known and much esteemed. The Hope family was one of the first to settle on the Carberry plain and none are more generally respected for their personal worth and skill as practical farmers. They came here in 1878 and young George homesteaded close to Carberry, where he lived till two years ago. Five years ago he had a bad attack of pleurisy which developed into consumption. He died at the early age of 38 and leaves a wife and two children.

The officers elected at the annual meeting of the South Brandon Agricultural Society were:—Alex. Naismith, pres.; David Stevenson, 1st V.P.; Wm. Patterson, 2nd V.P.; W. J. Johnston, sec.-treas.; directors—F. O. Fowler, John Carruthers, F. Noble, Jas. Elliott, Isaac M. Henderson, Chas. Leachman; auditor, Thos. Seelcy. The fair will be held at Wawanesa, July 17th, 1900.



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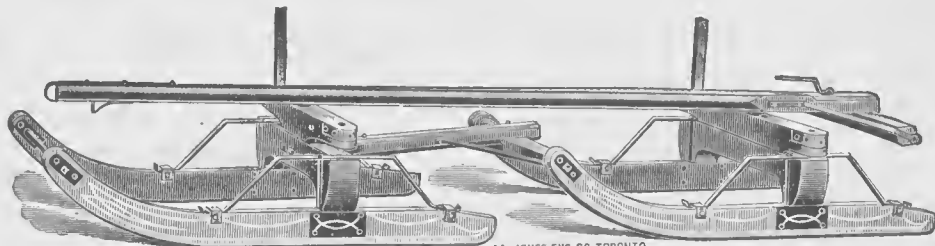
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**Farmers' Elevators.**

The dissatisfaction throughout the country with the elevator system and the way it has been worked for the advantage of the buyers, and which led to the appointing of an elevator commission of inquiry, is being settled in quite a few places by the farmers themselves. The plan that offers the best solution to this trouble in the minds of many men, is co-operation on the part of farmers in building a farmers' elevator themselves. From time to time The Farmer has given descriptions of successful farmers' elevators, but now we gather all this information together and present it to our readers in the hope that they may find in it the necessary information to enable them to organize and build an elevator, if they have not already done so.

Some of these elevators were built more than 10 years ago and have been fairly successful from the first, others were built a few years later, in 1891, 1892, and 1893. The most of these have been successful and wherever the farmers have had a good manager and have stood by him, there has been the greatest success. Some of the elevators, built the last two years, have been exceptionally successful.

**Capacity.**—This runs from 20,000 to 115,000 bushels, with the majority at from 30,000 to 50,000. The number of bins provided runs from 14 in a 20,000 bus. elevator to 46 in a 60,000 bushel one, the object being to give ample accommodation for individuals.

**Cost.**—Reduced to the cost per 1,000 bushels capacity the range is from \$171 to \$283, depending on the completeness of the outfit and the extras in the way of facilities for grinding grain, etc. The Carman elevator cost \$283 per 1,000 bus., yet it has given high dividends each year and expects to go higher still this year. The average cost of an elevator is about \$200 for every 1,000 bushels capacity.

**Capital.**—Some of the elevators started with the capital stock at about the cost of the entire plant and in some cases this was all subscribed and paid up at the time the building was put up. At Boissevain, where the elevator cost \$9,000, the capital stock was placed at \$50,000, and of this only \$7,000 was paid up when the building was erected. The Roland elevator, costing \$9,000, has a capital stock of \$12,000, of which \$7,000 was paid up at the time the elevator was built. Indian Head, with an elevator costing \$8,000, has a capital stock of only \$3,000, which was nearly all paid up at the time the building was erected. The municipality gave a bonus of \$3,000 towards the erection of the elevator.

**Value of a Share.**—\$50 is the favorite value of a share, although \$25 is the value

of quite a number, and in one case \$10. Different plans are followed about the way the shares are paid up. In quite a few cases the shares were payable in full at the time the building was erected, others allowed six months, or good notes were accepted, bearing interest. Boissevain made their's in two payments, while Indian Head's was at the call of the directors in 10 per cent., 10 per cent., 40 per cent and 40 per cent instalments. In only one or two cases was there any difficulty in getting the shares paid up. In nearly every case the sale of stock is not confined to farmers.

**Help.**—The amount of help depends on the volume of business—a manager, engineer and one or two hands. The smaller elevators have only a manager, while others have a secretary-treasurer instead of an engineer.

**Cleaning and Grading.**—Almost invariably the grain is cleaned before being weighed and the farmer paid for only the actual grain sold. A few elevators will receive on grade. In some places it is difficult to get farmers to allow the elevator to clean the grain as thoroughly as it should be and it has to be cleaned again at Fort William. Many of the elevators will not grade any wheat at all. They rent bins to farmers, and sometimes to buyers, who can grade if they want to, but the elevator does not assume the responsibility of any grade. Quite a large number of the elevators, and, by the way, the most successful ones, not only rent bins to individuals or buyers, but receive grain on grade themselves.

**Charge for Cleaning and Storing.**—The usual charge is 1½ cents per bushel for cleaning and shipping, including 30 days' storage. Boissevain allows only 20 days' storage; Dominion City charges also 50c. insurance on each ear-load. This charge for cleaning, etc., is made on shareholders and non-shareholders alike. Carman allows only 15 days' storage to non-shareholders. For additional storage the usual charge is ½c. to shareholders and 1c. to non-shareholders for each 30 days until a given time.

**Other Conveniences.**—The great majority of the elevators run a chopper for crushing grain, which in many cases is chopped at cost for shareholders. At one elevator over 62 per cent. of the wheat received was shipped to Fort William by farmers, at others there is but little shipped this way. On the Northern Pacific some farmers are shipping to Duluth.

**Influence of the Elevator.**—No one who has watched the workings of a live farmers' elevator can help coming to the conclusion that it exerts a good influence, and that cases can be cited where its presence has been the means of raising the price of wheat from one to three cents a

bushel. Its presence certainly tends to keep values up to top notch. In some cases it has been the means of drawing trade which was naturally tributary to other points.

**Profits.**—The most gratifying feature about a farmers' elevator, to the men who have purchased shares in it, is that where rightly managed it pays big dividends, besides giving them a better price for their wheat. It thus benefits the whole neighborhood. A concern that pays 11, 12½, 15 and 20 per cent. dividends, as many of the elevators did last year, and as some of them have done for years in succession, is a good one to invest in. It is a good thing to have in any community and more of these paying concerns could be started if farmers would pull together more than they do. What better lesson do we want in the value of co-operation? Surely the success which has followed so many farmers' elevators should inspire the farmers of other districts to co-operate and erect one. The success following co-operation in connection with elevators should inspire confidence for similar co-operation along other lines.

The Countess of Warwick has started a college in the South of England in which women of the "new persuasion" are to be taught agriculture and gardening. This new cult has also its organ, "The Woman's Agricultural Times." Ladies of high degree who have never done a stroke of real work, write to show how all this is to be learned and practiced. Professor Long writes of the "Farm for the New Woman," which is a nice little farm of 20 acres, "quite within the range of a woman's powers." Some of us have known widows who did not find a 100 or 200 acre farm too much for their powers; but that is by the way. He suggests that 5½ acres of this be worked as a market garden—fruit, vegetables and roses—and the rest devoted to pasturage and hay for five dairy cows. Stilton cheese at 10d. per lb. he considers the most paying dairy produce. In addition, some bees, poultry, and a pig are to be kept, so it will be seen that the knowledge of the farmeress must be varied and wide. It seems to me," says an amused critic, "that such a farm is more suited to the character and habits of the old woman, as I know her, than to the 'new woman.'"

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### The Farm Blacksmith Shop.

One of the most desirable accomplishments for a young farmer in an out-of-the-way settlement is to be handy with blacksmith's tools. It is gratifying to find so great an acquaintance with machinery, as is possessed by many of our farmers. But if it were possible that more of them could get a working acquaintance with blacksmithing a great point would be gained. At the Minnesota State School of Agriculture a little time is given to the forge and R. M. Wood, an ex-student of that institution, thus writes in the Farm Students' Review:—

Professor Drew often jokingly remarked when passing my forge, "What are you trying to do now?" and I was not sure that the Professor or any one else would know what it was that I had started to make, but I had an idea, and continued work making the same article, soon became more adept, and each stroke of the hammer told, and gradually from out the crude bar iron came an article of use.

Soon after arriving at home I fitted up a shop with plenty of space above for smoke, for that was a luxury we did not enjoy at school. To fit out the shop cost me about \$20, making tongs, punches and chisels myself. The first summer I paid for my tools out of the work that I did, which otherwise I should have had done at the blacksmith's, in the village four miles away.

There were many rods upon harrows that had become broken, and had been mended in a way, by wire, rope, straps, etc., these were replaced by rods, and where formerly too light ones had been used, heavy ones now took their place. If an extra large clevis was needed it was soon made. Bolts of required length filled the places of those that were broken or lost, and that old harrow looked about as serviceable as when new.

I found that blacksmith coal was much cheaper than horseflesh, and as soon as a plow lay became dull, instead of putting it off until there was a chance to send it to town to be sharpened, it was taken to the shop at noon or night, and when we hitched on again to our plow it seemed as though an extra horse had been put on, one could so easily notice the difference in draft.

Here in the Northwest, where so much has to be done between sun and sun in harvesting a great crop of grain, every moment that the binder can be kept going is precious, and when a key or bolt is lost, a shaft broken or bent, etc., which in a shop could be replaced, one readily sees the advantage of having a home shop as a saver of time. In one-half day, for example, two of us set ten wagon tires, and with us, blacksmiths charge one dollar a wheel; allowing \$1.50 for fuel, it leaves \$8.50 for work of two men one-half day. This shows where it is profitable. Then when a rainy day comes, there is nothing so good to drive away the blues as work, and in the shop is a good, dry place to fix up those "odds and ends" which are never wanting on a farm, and soon you will be deriving great pleasure out of that shop in seeing things kept repaired and in shape, and when you go into the house at night and your better half tells with pride of her big baking, you can boast of your profitable rainy day's work out at the shop.

In a Minnesota town of 1,000 people the merchants are combining to offer, on certain days, a prize of \$5 for the farmer driving the greatest distance to that town on business. He must market something and buy something. They have come from as far as forty-one miles.

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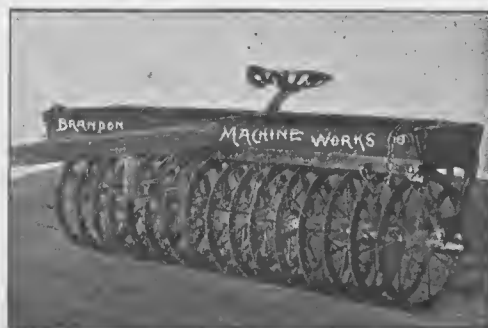
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## As Others See Us.

A representative of the Farmers' Review, on a recent press trip through Canada, saw the wheat fields of Manitoba, of which he thus speaks:—"We also visited the government experimental farm, where we inspected some splendid fields of wheat such as are rarely seen outside of the Canadian wheat belt. Some of the yields of grain that have been reported by the Brandon experimental farm are almost phenomenal. This station is a farm, pure and simple, not a school; there is no corps of instructors and there are no pupils. Everything we saw brought home to us the fact that we were at last in Manitoba, the great, if not the greatest, wheat-producing country in the world. We did not find it the wild region many people picture it to be. True, its agricultural possibilities were practically unknown previous to 1870, when it was made a province by the Dominion government, but, owing to the tide of immigration that swept in from Europe, eastern Canada and the United States, its development has been marvellously rapid, and there is now a closer network of railroads in the southern portion than is found in many of our western states."

## Spring vs. Fall Plowing.

On the North Dakota Experiment Station at Fargo an experiment in wheat growing has been carried on for eight years that is worth making a note of. In 1892 Professor Hays, now of the Minnesota station, had charge of this station, and started a system of rotation on land that had been under wheat since 1883. It was very uniform in character and rotation plots were arranged for with intermediate plots that were kept under wheat all the time. These intermediate plots have been plowed at different seasons and the resulting crops noted. The latest fall plowed land has been freest from weeds and has made in the eight years 13.7 bus. more than the spring plowed, which has run badly to wild oats. The other plots were plowed at different times in the fall, with the following results:—

Plowed	Total yield per acre for 8 yrs.	Average yearly yield per acre.	Weeds in 1898.
	Bushels per acre.	Bushels per acre.	Per cent wild oats.
Spring.. . .	132.4	16.5	60
Average fall ..	146.1	18.3	13
Early fall .. .	138.1	17.3	20
Middle fall. . .	148.9	18.6	15
Late fall. . . .	151.4	18.9	5

The soil on which these tests have been applied is partially of the gumbo style, heavy and sticky and turns over in lumps, which may explain the advantage from the latest plowing. One plot is plowed in the end of September, two in October and one in November. The difference in weed growth is the most perplexing point in the case. It is probable that the only reliable suggestion offered by this experiment is to plow gumbo land late in the fall and very deep. The moisture in the land at the time of plowing will have a marked effect both on the ease with which the work can be done and on the value of the result. To plow dry and leave the land without further treatment may do for gumbo, but for most of our land it is often a means of spoiling it for an early and full germination. Occasionally it gets dry enough to blow away before the winter's blasts and no preparation in spring can avert the same risk. To catch it in fall with all the moisture possible and harrow down forthwith

is the prudent course for most of our western land.

## Russian Plowing.

Judge Ives, of Crookston, Minnesota, thus describes from personal observation the way in which the Russian farmer prepares his land for a crop:—"I visited a farm where the Muzhiks were preparing the ground for another year's crop. The first process was plowing, under great difficulties. The motive power was a lean, half-starved horse, whose daily stint was not to exceed a quarter of an acre, harnessed to the plow by the shafts. The plow was a 'bull-tongue,' with a sharp coulter before it; the furrow cut—not turned—less than six inches wide, and of the same depth. Following the plow was a boy with a long-handle mallet, whose duty was to reduce all the clods and hard portions to as fine a condition as possible. Following the boy and mallet was another boy driving another half-starved horse, with a wooden-tooth harrow at his heels, and still another lean horse, boy and harrow, the latter having very small steel teeth thickly set and from six to eight inches below the wood. I watched these harrows for two hours; there were many such in sight, and no plot of ground was left until the soil was as fine and mellow as a Yankee's onion bed.

"This method, laborious and awkward as it is possible to conceive, is common over nearly every wheat region of Europe, probably on account of the small holdings of the peasantry and the extreme low wage of farm laborers. In another field I saw the Muzhik preparing his field with a spade; not a spade like ours, but an instrument with a long, narrow blade and straight handle. He dug up the soil to a depth of twenty inches or more, and the boy with the mallet followed, reducing the coarser clods ready for the harrow. I hope our country will never be reduced to a condition necessitating such methods; yet I believe we can learn much of the economics of agriculture from a careful observation of the methods of these children of nature."

It has been calculated that it takes nearly six miles walking to turn an acre of land with a 16-inch plow, and to plow 2½ acres in a day means a walk of 15 miles for the team, at a going speed of less than two miles an hour. An harrow following the plow would cover about 15 feet wide and travel a little faster, say 18 or 20 miles a day, and cover well up to 30 acres a day. For the results it can accomplish the harrow is one of the cheapest and most effective of all implements.

## The Canadian Order of Forresters.

This popular insurance society was organized in November, 1879, and is now 20 years old, and each succeeding year it has been growing stronger numerically and financially. The society has a membership of upwards of 35,000 in the Dominion of Canada, to which its operations are confined. On Jan. 1, 1900, it had \$337,261.66 on hand to pay death claims, which is invested as follows:

Dominion of Canada Stock .. . .	\$100,000.00
Deposit with Govt. of Prov. of Quebec..	5,000.00
Freehold Loan & S. Co., Toronto. . . .	30,000.00
Western Canada Loan & S. Co., Toronto	30,000.00
Central Canada L. & S. Co., Toronto. . .	30,000.00
Ontario Loan & Debenture Co., London	20,000.00
Hamilton Prov. & L. Soc'y, Hamilton. . .	20,000.00
British Mortgage & L. Co., Stratford. . .	20,000.00
Royal Loan & S. Co., Brantford. . . . .	20,000.00
Toronto Savings & Loan Co., Peterboro'	20,000.00
The Atlas Loan & S. Co., St. Thomas . .	20,000.00
Imperial Loan & S. Co., Toronto . . . .	20,000.00
Landed Banking Co., Hamilton . . . . .	20,000.00

Union Bank, Souris, Man. . . . .	20,000.00
Huron & Erie L. & S. Co., London . . .	10,000.00
London Loan Co. of Canada, London. .	10,000.00
Quebec Bank, Toronto . . . . .	10,000.00
Merchants' Bank of Halifax, Montreal..	10,000.00
Standard Bank, Brantford . . . . .	10,000.00
Bank of Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, P. E. I. . . . .	10,000.00
Bank of Hamilton, Morden, Man. . . .	10,000.00
Bank of Hamilton, Hamiota, Man. . . .	10,000.00
Bank of Hamilton, Winkler, Man. . . . .	10,000.00
Town of Paris, Debentures . . . . .	22,122.15
Selkirk School Debentures . . . . .	9,000.00
Town of Collingwood, Debentures . . . .	8,281.88
Town of Clinton . . . . .	25,000.00
Township of Hullett, Debentures . . . .	7,469.67
Township of Winchester, Debentures. .	2,642.60
Portage la Prairie School Debentures. .	8,529.05
Owen Sound, Debentures . . . . .	10,906.99
Strathroy Debentures . . . . .	10,101.78
Guelph Debentures . . . . .	10,287.18
Seaford Debentures . . . . .	6,718.75
Listowel Debentures . . . . .	6,131.71
Ashburnham Debentures . . . . .	5,039.05
Orillia Debentures . . . . .	4,814.83
Ridgeway Debentures . . . . .	3,812.74
City of St. Thomas, Debentures . . . .	38,616.14
City of Winnipeg, Debentures . . . . .	21,925.26
Tilsonburg Debentures . . . . .	9,614.64
Town of Truro, Bonds . . . . .	10,584.84
St. Catharines Debentures . . . . .	16,347.19
Buckingham Debentures . . . . .	16,502.50
Chatham Debentures . . . . .	27,480.25
Renfrew Debentures . . . . .	20,513.57
Parkhill Debentures . . . . .	9,253.48
Wingham Debentures . . . . .	8,913.90
Tara Debentures . . . . .	8,645.49
Brampton Debentures . . . . .	11,113.47
Cornwall Debentures . . . . .	20,716.77
Standard Bank, Brantford (current acct)	2,275.92
Bank of Hamilton, Winnipeg (current acct.) . . . . .	8,899.36
Total . . . . .	\$337,261.66

Since its inception the order has paid to its members and their dependents upwards of two million dollars in insurance and sick and funeral benefits. The society issues policies for \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500 and \$2,000, the latter sum being the limit on any life, and the premiums for the same are only 60 cents to \$1 per month per \$1,000, according to the age of the applicant. The death rate in the society was only 4.56 per 1,000 of the membership in 1898, and the average death rate since the organization of the society was 4.94.

The Sick and Funeral Benefit Branch, though an optional feature, is very popular among the membership, upwards of 18,000 being enrolled in that department. The benefits are \$3 per week for the first two weeks of illness and \$5 per week for the succeeding ten weeks, altogether \$56, during any year, besides a funeral benefit of \$30. The fees for same, payable monthly in advance, are from 25 cents to 45 cents, according to the age of the member when joining the branch. During the year 1899 over \$57,000 were paid out in sick and funeral benefits, and \$158,000 in insurance.

There are now about 700 subordinate branches, or courts, as they are called, throughout Canada, and the order is now well established in all the provinces and territories of the Dominion.

All physically and morally qualified males, between the ages of 18 and 45 years of age, who are not debarred on account of their occupation, are accepted for membership.

For further particulars enquire of any of the officers or members of the order, or address

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H.C.R., Ingersoll. High Sec., Brantford.  
Or ERNST GARTUNG, S.O., Brantford.  
Or D. E. McKINNON, D.H.C.R., Win-  
nipeg, Man., or WM. KIRKLAND, D.H.  
S., Winnipeg, Man.

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## Government Encouragement of Tree Planting.

By H. L. Patmore, Brandon, Man.

Early in the winter a paragraph appeared in a Winnipeg paper and other Canadian newspapers to the effect that a report was being prepared by the Interior Department as to the advisability and best means by which tree-planting in the west could be judiciously assisted, and one of the proposed plans was outlined.

To those who have given any thought to the subject, or who have had any experience in tree-culture and its effects, it is at once clear that to make of this western prairie a perfect farming country, and to render it more suitable to the various requirements of mixed farming, it is essential and absolutely necessary that tree-planting throughout the whole country should receive more attention than has been given it in the past. As the farmers themselves, by reason of the many difficulties they have to contend with in the short open seasons in preparing and cropping their lands, are not able to do all that they should, or wish to do, in respect to tree-planting, and also because of the large quantity of vacant lands, held by various companies, which do so much to render valueless the efforts at improvements made by the isolated farmer. It does seem that the Department, in having recognized this, and in considering means by which the desired end can be obtained, are showing a close interest in the welfare of this western country and in its future, and are deserving of its support and encouragement in forming and in carrying out their plans in this direction.

In the paragraph referred to above reference is made to the hedges so generally used as dividing lines on the farms in European countries. Apart from the question of the improved appearance of the country, if hedges were universal, let us consider briefly if it would be worth while for farmers to adopt the system here, because it is certain there would be many arguments advanced against its utility.

If a half section farm was divided into four fields of 80 acres each and a hedge planted around each field, the hedge would draw its nourishment from half a rod of land on either side. This could be utilized as a headland or roadway, and after the hedge was well rooted could be seeded with grass and cut for hay. The hedge itself in four years from planting would form a strong fence at less cost than any other and more permanent. At the end of eight years the trimmings would supply all the summer firewood needed, and at the end of twelve years would furnish poles and wood for winter use, and after being cut back would grow again from the roots thicker and faster than previously.

One argument advanced against this would be that it would not pay to cultivate 80-acre fields when a mile furrow could be plowed. Let us think for a while. The hedges would permit of occasional seeding to grass and pasturing, thereby restoring fertility; the leaves from the hedges would blow into and help to add more fertility to the fields; the snow in winter would lie more even and conserve more moisture; the winds would not sweep so strongly in spring, and thus would save seed and plant. The rain in summer would not evaporate so quickly, and droughts would be less dis-

astrous. The hot winds would be cooled and checked, and the premature ripening and consequent shrinkage would not be so great. So that it is only reasonable to expect that a much larger yield per acre could be expected from a sheltered 80-acre field than from an open unsheltered half section of land, and although the cost of cultivation might possibly be a little more, the returns might reasonably be expected to be much larger.

How would the hedge system affect the prairie in winter? There would probably be a few snowdrifts, but not worse than they are at present without the hedges, whilst on the other hand, the winter on the prairie would be robbed of half its terrors, travelling in winter would be rendered more safe as the danger of being lost in storms would be removed, and the storms themselves would not be nearly so bad, as every bush tends to break the severity of a storm.

Apart from these considerations is the question as to what effect a generally adopted system of hedge and tree-planting would have upon the climate of the country. There are many theories and opinions on this point, but one thing is certain, its effect upon the climate could not be otherwise than beneficial, and this point alone should show the need for the adoption of some system, and should justify our government in taking action upon the matter.

In conclusion, the writer would say that this is not written to advance any theory, but from practical experience of the growth and value of hedges, etc., on light prairie soils, being satisfied, after twelve years of trial, that for almost any crop one acre of sheltered land is worth far more than an acre of open, wind-swept prairie.



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### The "World-Song."

What sings the fleckle southwind to the rose?  
 What sighs the breeze, as it pensively  
 blows?  
 What is the theme of the nightingale's  
 song?  
 What drones the bee as he hurries along?  
 What is the song of the tinkling blue-bell?  
 What dreams the robin asleep down the  
 dell?  
 What means the coo of the soft-breasted  
 dove?  
 "All nature marvels at sweet-mother-love."  
 What trills the blue-bird as quickly she flies  
 O'er perfumed meadows ere day opens her  
 eyes?  
 What hums the locust in green shady leaves?  
 What calls the swallow, up under the eaves?  
 What chimes the bell as it tunelessly rings?  
 What chirps the thrush on the hough as she  
 swings?  
 What chorus larks, as they soar up above?  
 "All nature marvels at sweet mother-love?"  
 What whirs the cricket throughout the long  
 day?  
 What lows the kine in the fields far away?  
 What says the brook as it flows o'er its  
 stones?  
 What lolls the child in its quaint baby-  
 tones?  
 What is the music that comes o'er the seas?  
 What soaks the rain to the leaves on the  
 trees?  
 What sings the angels in their chants above?  
 "All nature marvels at sweet mother-love."

—Trained Motherhood.

### Good Reference.

John was fifteen, and very anxious to get a desirable place in the office of a well-known lawyer who had advertised for a boy, but doubted his success, because, being a stranger in the city, he had no reference to present.

"I'm afraid I'll stand a poor chance," he thought, despondently; "however, I'll try to appear as well as I can, for that may help me a little."

So he was careful to have his dress and person neat, and when he took his turn to be interviewed, went in with his hat in his hand and a smile on his face.

The keen-eyed lawyer glanced over him from head to foot.

"Good face," he thought, "and pleasant ways."

Then he noted the neat suit—but other boys had appeared in new clothes—saw the well-brushed hair and clean-looking skin. Very well, but there had been others there quite as cleanly; another glance, however, showed the finger-nails free from soil.

"Ah! that looks like thoroughness," thought the lawyer.

Then he asked a few direct, rapid questions, which John answered as directly.

"Prompt," was his mental comment; "can speak up when necessary. Let's see your writing," he added aloud.

John took a pen and wrote his name.

"Very well, easy to read, and no flourishes. Now what references have you?"

The dreaded question, at last!

John's face fell. He had begun to feel some hope of success, but this dashed it again.

"I haven't any," he said, slowly; "I'm almost a stranger in the city."

"Can't take a boy without references," was the brusque rejoinder, and as he spoke a sudden thought sent a flush to John's cheek.

"I haven't any references," he said, with hesitation, "but here's a letter from mother I just received. I wish you would read it."

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The lawyer took the letter. It was a short letter:

My Dear John,—I want to remind you that wherever you find work you must consider that work your own. Don't go into it, as some boys do, with the feeling that you will do as little work as you can, and get something better soon, but make up your mind you will do as much as possible, and make yourself so necessary to your employer that he will never let you go.

You have been a good son to me, and I can truly say I have never known you to shirk. Be as good in business, and I am sure God will bless your efforts.

"H'm!" said the lawyer, reading it over the second time. "That's pretty good advice, John—excellent advice. I rather think I'll try you, even without the references."

John has been with him six years, and last spring was admitted to the bar.

"Do you intend taking that young man into partnership?" asked a friend lately.

"Yes, I do. I couldn't get along without John; he is my right-hand man!" exclaimed the employer heartily.

And John always says the best reference he ever had was a mother's good advice and honest praise.

### Our Dumb Companions.

It would be interesting just to know how many of our western farmers educate their boys, and girls to be fond of the animals on the farm. It is always conceded that in order to attain the best success in stock raising a man must be fond of his beast. While the child is still young is the time to establish in its virgin affections a love for the dumb creatures—so shall he be a successful stockman in later years.

But the simple mind of the youth may also glean a wealth of practical education, acquire many ways which will tend to strengthen manhood, and, in short, gain much weal and no woe by a study of and a companionship with our four-footed friends.

Perhaps even we older ones might learn a few lessons in the same way. Who can help admiring the solicitude of the mild-eyed cow as she defends her offspring against all-comers; who can watch unresponsively the diverting gambols of the woolly-coated puppy, or who can gaze into the eye of the noblest of all the dumb creatures—the horse—and fail to see there the fine blending of strength and submissiveness?

Let all the influences be used to instil into the minds of the young the fact that God's creatures are all alike entitled to share in that bounty that flows in the milk of human kindness. Teach them to be humane in their treatment of the animals over which the Almighty has given us dominion. The youth who loves the

uncomplaining beasts of the field will find them no bad company. Deceit and hypocrisy, malice and mendacity do not abide in herd and flock.

Some of the "Don't Worry" clubs might look into the eyes of our four-footed friends at times and find hidden there a deep philosophy.

"Heaven from all creatures hides the book of Fate,

All but the page prescribed, their present state.

The lamb thy riot dooms to bleed to-day  
 Had he thy reason would he skip and play?

Pleased to the last he crops the flowery food

And licks the hand just raised to shed his blood."

Patience, resignation, fortitude. These are a few of the virtues that find daily exemplification in other places than the haunts of men, if we have but eyes to see them.

### Beresford's Choice.

Lord Charles Beresford as a boy was the despair of both his parents and teachers. On his thirteenth birthday his father gave him his choice whether he would enter the army or navy, or take up orders.

"Well," he concluded, "what is it to be, my lad?"

"The navy, my lord."

"And why the navy, boy?"

"'Cause I'd like to be an admiral—like Nelson."

"Pshaw—like Nelson! Why Nelson?"

"'Cause I want to."

"But even if you were to enter the navy, why do you think you would ever become an admiral?"

"'Cause I mean to," was the blunt reply.

He had his wish, and entered the navy. At the bombardment of Alexandria he distinguished himself greatly, and long ago he attained the summit of his ambition. He is an admiral, and though conditions have changed, in spirit he is indeed like Nelson.

### Was He Homesick?

A fourteen-year-old boy, whose devotion to his widowed mother is a pretty thing to see, was sent to a preparatory school in a town which is nearly a day's journey from his home. He arrived in the late afternoon. Early the next morning he wrote the following letter, which his mother received as quickly as the mail could deliver it into her hands:

"Dear Ma: I'm not a bit homesick, but I should think you might write to a fellow once in a while. Your affectionate Tom."

## Old Baldy.

"I declare! So the deacon's goin' to try his hand on Old Baldy, eh?" Jim Wheeler chuckled gleefully at the news, and rubbed his hands. "Waal, mebbe some-thin' 'll happen," he went on, "an' mebbe it won't, but I sha'n't be a mite s'prised if Old Baldy come out a-top."

"The deacon's got a right powerful will," Sim Grimes suggested, dubiously. "An' so has Baldy—powerful'st will in the county, bar none. But critters is critters, and—" And Grimes was just preparing to unload his mind of certain ideas concerning man's primacy in the physical world, when the other cut him short.

"Now jest look here, Sim Grimes! Have you ever hearn tell of one man what limbered up Old Baldy when Old Baldy wa'n't so minded? There's Tucker an' Smith an' Johnson, an' Olsen, an' Ordway an' Well-man—didn't the whole caboodle try their luck at breakin' Old Baldy's sperrit, an' didn't the whole caboodle give it up? Jest tell me this, Sim Grimes—did you ever in yer born days hear on one man or passel of men gettin' Old Baldy on his feet when he took it into his head to lay down?"

"Mebbe yer right," Sim Grimes assented mildly, then his old faith in Deacon Barnes returning, "But the deacon's got a right powerful will." "But Deacon Barnes jined a Prevention of Cruelty to Animals society, didn't he?" Grimes nodded. "An' he don't b'lieve in whippin' dumb brutes?" "Nope." "Then how in the land of Goshen kin he make Old Baldy git up when he ain't in the mood?"

"It's more'n I kin tell," Grimes answered, at the same time starting up his horses. But before he was out of earshot he turned and called back, "But the deacon's got a powerful will!"

The farmers of Selbyville had little use for Old Baldy, and less regard; yet he was one of the finest oxen in the county, and perhaps the largest in the state, says a writer in the American Agriculturist. A good worker and a splendid yoke-animal, a stranger might have wondered at the celerity with which his various owners rid themselves of him, after having been inveigled into buying him. The same stranger might have worked him a week before he discovered why, and again an hour would have sufficed to unearth the secret. Old Baldy had but one fault—he was stubborn. And he manifested this stubbornness in but one way. Whenever things did not exactly go to suit him, he simply lay down in his tracks, there and then, consulting neither his own nor his master's convenience. And there he would stay. Nothing could move him. Force was useless; persuasion as bad. The heavens might roll up as a scroll, or the stars fall from their seats in the sky, but there Old Baldy would stay until of his own free will he decided to get up and move along. Never from the time yoke was first put upon him had a man succeeded in budging him against his will. It was asserted that he had caused more gray hairs to grow in the heads of the Selbyville farmers than all the mortgages of the past three generations. He always went absurdly cheap, and man after man had bought him in the fond hope of conquering him, and winning not only the approbation of his fellows, but a very good bargain. And man after man had sold him for little or nothing, insanely happy at being rid of so much vexation of spirit.

"As stubborn as Old Baldy" became a figure of speech, the common property of the community. Fathers conjured obedience from their sons by its use; the school-master employed it on his stiff-necked pupils; and even the minister calling sinners to repentance, blanched the cheek of the most unregenerate with its brand. But in

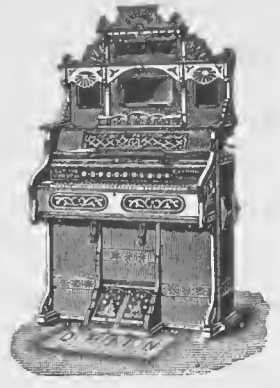
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## EXTRACT FROM A RECENT LETTER

November 30, 1899.

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## SUGDEN'S CATARRH PILLS

the best remedy on the market for  
Catarrh, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,  
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Looking through it you can see the bones in  
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From Minneapolis and St. Paul, via Wisconsin  
Central Ry., for Manitowac, Milwaukee, Chicago,  
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Milwaukee, Wis.

the language of Deacon Barnes alone, it had no place. It was his wont to smile and chuckle when others made use of the phrase, till people remarked it would be a blessing if he only got the tough old ox once on his hands. And now, after Old Baldy had become thoroughly set in the iniquity of his ways, the deacon had bought him off Joe Westfield for a song. Selbyville looked forward to the struggle with great interest, and sly grins and open skepticism were the order of the day whenever the topic was mentioned. They knew the deacon had a will of iron, but they also knew Old Baldy; and their collective opinion was that the deacon, like everybody else who had tried their hand at it, was bound to get the worst of the bargain.

Deacon Barnes and Old Baldy were coming down the last furrow of the ten-acre patch back of the pasture. Five rods more of the plow and it would be ready for the harrow. Old Baldy had been behaving splendidly, and the deacon was jubilant. Besides, Bob, his promising eldest-born, had just run half way across the pasture and shouted that dinner was ready and waiting.

"Comin'!" he shouted back, no more dreaming that he would fail to reach the end of the furrow than that the dinner call was the trump of judgment. Just then Old Baldy stopped. The deacon looked surprised. Baldy sighed contentedly. "Get up?" he shouted, and Baldy, with a hurt expression on his bovine countenance, proceeded to lie down.

Deacon Barnes stepped around where he could look into his face, and talked nicely to him, with persuasion and pathos mixed; for he feared greatly for Old Baldy's well being. Not that he intended whipping him brutally or anything like that, but—well, he was Deacon Barnes, with the ripened will of all the male Barnes that had gone before, and he hadn't the slightest intention of being beaten by a stubborn old ox. So they just looked each other in the eyes, he talking mildly and Baldy listening with complacent interest, till Bob shouted a second time across the pasture that dinner was waiting.

"Look here, Baldy," the deacon said, rising to his feet; "if you want to lay there so mighty bad, 'tain't in me to stop you. Only I give you fair warnin'—the sweets of life do cloy, and you kin git too much of a good thing. Layin' down in the furrer ain't what it's cracked up to be, an' you'll git a-mighty sick on it before yer done with me." Baldy gazed at him with stolid impudence, saying as plainly as though he spoke, "Well, what are you going to do about it?"

But the deacon never lost his temper. "I'm goin' to git a bite to eat," he went on, turning away; "an' when I come back I'll give you one more chance. But, mark my words, Baldy, it'll be yer last."

At the table, Deacon Barnes, instead of being at all irritated, radiated even more geniality than was his wont, and this in the face of the fact that Mrs. Barnes had a mild attack of tantrums because he had kept dinner waiting. Afterwards, when he went out on the porch, he saw Jim Wheeler had pulled up his horses where he could look over the fence at the victorious Baldy. When he passed the house he waved his hand and smiled knowingly at the deacon, and went on to spread the news that the deacon and Old Baldy were "at it."

But there was a certain unusual exhilaration in the deacon's face and step as he led off to the barn with Bob following in his footsteps. There he proceeded to load up his eldest-born with numerous iron and wooden pegs and old pieces of chain and rope. Then, with his axe in hand, he headed across the pasture to the scene of mu-

*If you are tired reading Blue Ribbon Tea advertisements, take a cup of the Tea itself and you will be in a good humor again.*

tiny. "Come! Git up, Baldy!" he commanded. "It's high time we got this furrer finished."

Baldy regarded him passively, with half-veiled, lazy eyes. "Reckon it be more comfortable where you are, eh? B'lieve in takin' it easy, eh? All right. You can't say Deacon Barnes is a hard master." As he talked, he worked, driving pegs all about the stubborn animal. Then from the pegs he stretched the ropes and chains, passing them across Baldy till that worthy was hard and fast to mother earth—so hard and fast that it would have required a steam derrick to get him to his feet. "Jest enjoy yourself, Baldy," the deacon called, as he started away. "I'll come up to-morrer after breakfast an' see how you be."

True to his word, in the morning the deacon paid his promised visit. But Baldy was yet strong in his will, and he behaved sullenly as animals well know how. He even tried to let on that it was real nice lying out there with nothing to do, and that the deacon worried him with his chatter, and had better go away. But Deacon Barnes stayed a full quarter of an hour, talking pleasantly, with a cheery, whole-souled ring to his voice, which vexed Baldy greatly.

In the evening, after supper, he made another visit. Old Baldy was feeling stiff and sore from lying in the one position all day with the hot sun beating down upon him. He even betrayed anxiety and interest when he heard his master's steps approaching, and there was a certain softening and appeal in his eyes. But the deacon made out he didn't see it, and after talking nicely for a few minutes went home again. In the morning Baldy received another visit. By this time he was not only sore, but hungry and thirsty as well. He was no longer indifferent to his owner's presence, and he begged so eloquently with his eyes that the deacon was touched, but he hardened his heart and went back to the house again. He had made up his mind to do what all Selbyville during a number of years had failed to accomplish, and now that he had started he was going to do it thoroughly.

When he came out again after dinner, Baldy was abject in his humility. His pleading eyes followed his master about unceasingly, and once, when the deacon turned, as though to go away, he actually groaned. "Sweets do cloy, eh?" Deacon Barnes said, coming back. "Even lyin' in the furrer is vanity and vexation, eh? Well, I guess we'll finish this furrer now. What d'you say, Baldy? And after that you kin have somethin' to eat an' a couple o' buckets of water. Eh? What d'you say?"

It can never be known for a fact as to whether Baldy understood his master's words or not, but he showed by his actions that he thoroughly understood when the ropes and chains were loosened and remov-

ed. "Kind o' cramped, eh?" the deacon remarked, as he helped him to his feet. "Well, g'long now, let's finish this furrer."

Baldy finished that furrow, and after that there was never a furrow he commenced that he did not finish. And as for lying down—well, he manifested a new kind of stubbornness. He couldn't be persuaded or bullied into lying down. No, sir, he wouldn't have it. He'd finish the furrow first, and all the furrows all day long. He grew real stubborn when it came to lying down. But the deacon didn't mind. And all Selbyville marvelled, and a year afterward more than one farmer, including Jim Wheeler, was offering the deacon far more for Old Baldy than he had paid. But Deacon Barnes knew a bargain when he had got it, and he was just as stubborn in refusing to sell as Old Baldy was in refusing to lie down.

### There Was Sorrow There.

The colonel halted his horse in front of a Dakota dugout and uttered a vigorous "Hello!" and after a minute a tow-headed girl of about sixteen years of age showed up and looked over him and said:

"Now, then, what ye whoopin' fur and who be ye?"

"Can I get anything to eat here?"

"Not a thing."

"Any water for my horse?"

"The spring's gone dry."

"How far is it to the river?"

"Dunno."

"Please ask your father to step out."

"Pop's been on a drink for a week."

"And your mother?"

"She's got the toothache. That's her crying."

"Haven't you got a brother?"

"Yep, but he got snake-bit yesterday and don't feel well."

"Well, what about you?" persisted the colonel. "You seem to be all right."

"Oh, but I ain't," she replied, as she made ready to disappear. "I was to git married yesterday, but my feller got shot by an Injun, and it'll take two weeks to ketch on to another. This ar' a house of sorrow, sir, and you will please to ride on and not ask any more fool questins'!"

Mrs. Peck—"If I had my life to live over again I wouldn't marry the best man alive."

Mr. Peck (his last chance)—"You bet you wouldn't; I wouldn't ask you to."

"You will be sorry for the way you have neglected me when I am silent in the tomb," said Mrs. Peck.

"My dear," said Mr. Peck, as innocently as he could, "I cannot imagine such a thing."

**Absolute Safeguard Against Colds.**

It is an utter impossibility to catch cold if the surfaces of the body are kept at an even temperature. The trouble may be

from without or it may be from within—that is, by not being either properly or sufficiently clad; by not having perfect circulation, or by not eating such food as is needed to furnish the required heat of

the body. The chilliness you experience in the winter arises from one or two causes; first, lack of sufficient carbonaceous food; second, poor circulation, possibly due to lack of exercise.—L. H. Journal.

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## People's Knitting Syndicate, Limited.

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### Head Office and Mill, TORONTO, ONT.

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Divided into shares of \$1.00 each, of which 100,000 shares are offered for public subscription. (Each subscriber of twenty shares to be furnished a twenty dollar knitting machine free to work for the Syndicate and to share in the net profits of all goods made.)

**PRESIDENT:** A. W. MAYBERRY, Esq., M.D., Toronto. **DIRECTORS:** P. J. M. HORROCKS, Esq., Consumers' Gas Company, Toronto; H. M. HARDY, Esq., Toronto; J. H. HUNTER, Esq., Toronto. **BANKERS:** THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA, Toronto, Ont. **SOLICITORS:** GIBSON ARNOLD & CO., Toronto, Ont. **TRUSTEE AND TRANSFER AGENT:** STUART S. ARNOLD, Esq., North British and Mercantile Co., Toronto.

## WORK FOR YOUR WINTER AND SUMMER.

### Read Carefully and Become a Shareholder.

This Syndicate has been formed for the purpose of manufacturing knitted goods cheaper than any existing company, to keep down prices, and to oppose the large knitting combines and companies which have joined hands to raise prices. To do this successfully it will be necessary to get yarn at the first cost and to manufacture the goods with the least possible expense. Therefore—

1. The Syndicate will manufacture its own yarn and machines for which it has a mill and every facility.
2. The Syndicate will have all goods made by shareholders knitting at their own homes.

3. The Syndicate will pay for all properly made goods at once upon receipt of same, and besides paying for the work when sent in will semi-annually divide with its working shareholders the net profits from the sale of all goods made by its shareholders.

4. The Syndicate will sell all goods made by its working shareholders.

5. To each subscriber of twenty \$1.00 shares the Syndicate gives free a twenty dollar Knitting Machine to keep, and also supplies each working shareholder, free of charge, full directions, samples and yarn to make the goods.

To become a shareholder, a worker, the owner of one of the machines, to be paid for the work you do, and also to participate in the equal division of the net profits, you have only to become a member of the Syndicate and take twenty \$1.00 shares which will cost you twenty dollars.

It is to manufacture its own yarns and knitting machines and supply these machines and yarns to its shareholders FREE. By this plan it can readily be seen that the Syndicate will not only benefit its shareholders by way of dividends, but it will be the source of a regular employment and income at their homes. The Syndicate is fully prepared to keep its shareholders supplied with yarns for doing the various kinds of work required, and it is also in a position to dispose of all goods knitted from these yarns through large jobbers and to the general trade as fast as it is sent in by its shareholders.

We have a factory for the purpose of manufacturing machines and yarn only, all knitted goods being made by our shareholders at their own homes, no knitting being done on the premises. It will be seen that to manufacture goods on so large a scale it would be necessary to have a number of knitting factories, which would mean the investment of thousands of dollars, besides taxes, insurance and interest on same. We can, therefore, not only manufacture goods cheaper and in larger quantities, but down the combines and pay our shareholders a handsome dividend semi-annually.

**THE MACHINE** the Syndicate furnishes a high speed family seamless knitting machine, and will last a lifetime with ordinary usage, in fact the Syndicate will guarantee the machine for twenty years. It will knit from the finest imported yarns to the coarsest of Canadian wool yarn the same as hand work, but eighty times faster. With each machine a full outfit is sent, together with a supply of yarn to commence at once. The guide accompanying machine is so plain and the operation so simple that any one of ordinary intelligence can make any of the knitted goods required by the Syndicate such as Gents' Socks, Ladies' Stockings, Golf and Bicycle Hose, Knickers, Leggings and Toggles for Children.

**THE PRICES** the Syndicate pays for knitting these goods are:—Socks, \$5.00 per 100 pairs; Ladies' Stockings, \$10.00 per 100 pairs; Gents' Golf and Bicycle Hose complete, \$10.00 per 100 pairs; Leggings and Footless Bicycle Hose, \$5.00 per 100 pairs; fine Toggles, \$5.00 per 100. All these goods are quickly made on the machine and at these prices any person willing to work can make good pay, much more than clerking in store, working in shop or laboring on farm. Shareholders can devote all or part of their time knitting, but at all times they are expected to work for the interests of the Syndicate.

**WHO CAN JOIN.** All persons willing to accept and honestly knit the yarn entrusted to them, and to return made goods promptly to the Syndicate.

**WHAT YOU MUST DO TO JOIN.** Each person desiring to become a shareholder of stock, participating in the semi-annual dividends, and to do knitting for the Syndicate, receiving pay as fast as work is sent in,—must cut out the following APPLICATION FORM, sign their name to it, fill in address and reference, and enclose it with Express or Post Office Money Order for \$20.00 to the Syndicate's Secretary, Stuart S. Arnold, 26 Wellington Street, Toronto, Ontario, to whom all money orders are to be made payable.

### APPLICATION FORM FOR STOCK AND MACHINE.

**STUART S. ARNOLD, Trustee and Transfer Agent, 26 Wellington Street, TORONTO, ONT.**

DEAR SIR,—I enclose you herewith \$20.00 in FULL PAYMENT for twenty shares of stock (subject to no other calls), in The People's Knitting Syndicate, Limited, which I wish allotted to me, and one of your machines, with samples, instructions and yarn, which I wish sent me as soon as possible to enable me to begin work for the Syndicate at once upon receipt of same. The said stock to entitle me to participate in the semi-annual dividends of the Syndicate in addition to being paid cash on delivery for all the Knitting I do for the Syndicate.

Name your nearest Express Office:

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Name Reference, Mr.....

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Owing to the large number of applications already pouring in, the number of shares has been limited to twenty for each subscriber.

## SUBSCRIPTION LISTS CLOSE IN THIRTY DAYS.



## Monarch of the Prairies.

Take your stand here on this bluff and you can look down upon a spectacle as exciting as anything offered in the days of bloodthirsty Roman sport. Stretching away to the north is dip and hollow and broken ground for a mile, says the Young People's Paper. Then comes the grand prairie, sweeping clear to the south fork of the Platte before it surrenders to the hills.

Did ever a human king have a grander throne? He stands on a knoll covered with rich, sweet grass, and even with the naked eye you can see the violets and bluebells and forget-me-nots peeping between the blades. It is a throne of wild flowers.

Ten miles away are a dozen moving black specks. They are buffaloes. Nothing else with life in it is nearer. The king's domains are rich in food and drink, and the early morning sunshine tells of peace and harmony. He stands with head elevated, and as he slowly turns in his tracks he sniffs the air for scent of danger. Who is our king? A buffalo bull—nature's monarch of the grand prairie.

How came he here alone and deprived of companionship? Men become cynics and world haters and shake off all attempts at friendliness. So with wild animals. This monarch is here to pout and sulk and feel aggrieved and plan for revenge.

Ah! High above him, with every foot of ground under your eyes, you could see no danger. His keen scent warns him of peril, and a wolf breaks cover not 100 feet away in a manner to startle you. He seems to rise from the very earth—not with a bound and a yell, but with a quiet coolness that bodes evil.

The bull lowers his head, and his eyes flash at the sight of the enemy who has come to disturb his reveries. Compare their size and strength, and you laugh at the idea of a wolf bringing harm to a buffalo. One blow from a hoof, one toss from the horns, and the wolf would lie crushed and dead.

Pooh! 'Tis an enemy not worth a second glance! The wolf may look with longing eyes and lick his chops for taste of blood, but he is wasting time. In the grove to the left a bunch of cattle is grazing. He had best shamble across the broken ground, give fight and hamstring one or more of them.

Behold! Another! As the chickens rise from the ground a second wolf suddenly shows himself above the grass. You cannot say that the beasts even suspect each other's presence. They are fifty feet apart, and both sit and stare straight at the monarch of the plains. The bull gives his head a toss as he sights the second arrival. Wolves hunt in pairs. Here is a pair. Nothing strange in that.

Yes, rub your eyes to see if they are clear, and you will find they haven't deceived you. Up pops a third, fourth, fifth, and sixth wolfish head, followed by a body which is ever gaunt and lean—ever the synonym of hunger. One wolf created nothing beyond momentary surprise, the pair bred a feeling of contempt, the six of them may bring peril.

And so the monarch evidently reasons. He paws the ground, shakes his head, and that low bellow expresses anxiety as well as defiance. He could wheel and rush away, and in an hour he could be feeding with the herd. But there are pride and obstinacy and jealousy to be consulted. No deputation has come from the herd to coax and reason with him, and he will do battle for his life rather than give in. It is both manlike and brutelike.

What! Have the six multiplied so fast?

Just a moment ago we saw only the half-dozen; now there are ten—twelve—sixteen—they are rising from the earth all around him! The bull turns as if on a pivot. Wolves to the north, the east; the south, the west. The circle is complete. Watch him.

When a man must die in the presence of his enemies, let him die like a warrior. The monarch knows what this gathering means. He sees the lolling tongues, and he hears the gnashing of teeth. There is no help for him. He must die like a craven or prove his courage.

See the head go up? Hear the roar of defiance? Is there anything craven in that attitude?

The wolves have been sitting as quiet as so many blocks of stone placed on the grass. That roar of defiance puts life into them and they come nearer.

Curious pantomime! A grand old buffalo turning slowly round and round in his tracks to eye each wolf, and watch every motion. A score and a half of gaunt, grim, waiting beasts, every eye fixed upon a common centre, every fang sharpened for a feast.

Swish, swirl, rush.

The circle closes in at the signal, and for fifteen seconds the eye is confused. It appears as if some one hidden in the grass was tossing and waving strips of grey and white cloth. The roars of the bull are almost drowned in the yelps and growls and howls of the assailants.

Good! There is game there! The monarch has used his horns and hoofs to such good purpose that the circle has opened away from him. Legs and flanks and shoulders have been bitten and teeth have drawn blood, where a bullet would hardly penetrate, but he is not disarmed. Under his feet are two dead wolves, two more limp around outside the circle.

Um-m-m! Paw! Toss! Come again if you dare.

There is the rush, the swirl, the strange spectacle of grey-white bundles jumping over each other, and the circle falls back to breathe.

There are long tufts of hair on the grass, more dead wolves, spots of blood. The bull shakes his head and seems weak on his legs. Blood is trickling down from a score of savage bites, while he barely touches the grass with one hind foot. There is a low bellow, and something in it smacks of fear. Pah! if you must die, why not die bravely?

That's good! That is a roar of defiance, grandly loud and deep, and the monarch gathers himself and makes a rush. He has turned assailant. With lowered head and blazing eyes he rushes at one point in the circle, and a grey-white body rises high in the air, to come down without life.

There is such a circling and swirling now that you can see nothing but the mass—now and then breaking away for a second, to reveal the bull fighting for his life.

It is over! He is down, and his blood is smearing the grim jaws of the wolves as they tear at the hot flesh. Ah, well, but there was game, nerve, and true grit, and his bones deserve burial at the hand of man.

## A Czar's Novel Visiting Card.

The Russians tell a story of the late Czar Alexander III that upon rare occasions, when it was incumbent upon him to pay a call, he would take a gold coin bearing "his image and superscription" and twisting it between thumb and finger leave it in lieu of a card—The only man in Russia who had strength for the feat. —January Ladies' Home Journal.

## THE 'RAZOR STEEL'

Secret Temper, Cross-cut Saw.



WE take pleasure in offering to the public a saw manufactured of the finest quality of steel and a temper which toughens and refines the steel, gives a keener cutting edge and holds it longer than by any process known. A saw, to cut fast, "must hold a keen cutting edge."

This secret process of temper is known and used only by ourselves.

These saws are elliptic ground thin back, requiring less set than any saws now made, perfect taper from tooth to back.

Now, we ask you, when you go to buy a saw, to ask for the Maple Leaf, Razor Steel, Secret Temper Saw, and if you are told that some other saw is as good, ask your merchant to let you take them both home and try them, and keep the one you like the best.

Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the "Razor Steel" brand.

It does not pay to buy a saw for one dollar less and lose 25c. per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States and sold at a higher price than the best American saws.

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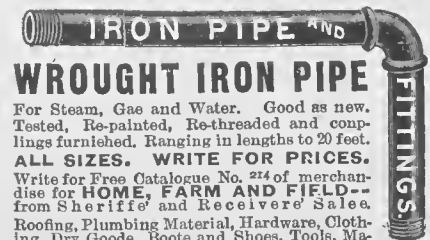


After years of use by thousands of the most progressive farmers of Canada, the yearly sales of the

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**Chicago House Wrecking Co.** W. 35th & Lake Sts. CHICAGO.

## OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

### Fifty Car loads of Christmas Snow.

Written for The Farmer by C. B. Loomis.

(COPYRIGHT 1900.)

Roderick Dawson lived in that part of the world where the mercury never gets lower than sixty and where snow is so entirely unknown that the very word has dropped out of the local dictionaries. Rain they have and plenty of it, but they wouldn't know snow if they saw it.

When Roderick was eleven years old he was invited to visit his cousin, Frank Parsons, of Loudon Hill. It comes in the shape of a buster of a storm on when the sun melts it and it all goes off November first and stays until May first, in a freshet and does a lot of damage to people living below Loudon Hill. But as water has never formed the pernicious habit of running up hill, the Loudon Hillites are always safe.

It was in the middle of November when Roderick was driven from the train up to the Parsons house and of course there was snow everywhere and his delight at moving smoothly along on runners was something to make a northern child wonder.

"Didn't you ever see this before?" asked Frank.

"Why, no. Does it really come from the sky as you said?"

"Of course it does. My, but you're green! Why, what do you do with your sleds down there?"

"Sleds? What's that?" asked Roderick, innocently, and Frank concluded that he was not quite bright. But he never made a greater mistake in his life, as he soon found out, for Roderick was as smart as any boy of his age, and when

as much as if he had known about snow all his life.

But as it happened, he never connected snow with cold. He supposed that snow was a peculiar kind of white dust that came from the sky and if they didn't have it in Tarrapoosa parish why there were lots of other things that were peculiar to the north. So he accepted snow as a curious, but none the less delightful fact.



She was so tall they had to use a forty foot ladder to finish her.

He stood the cold weather very well for a southern boy and, indeed, sometimes went without an overcoat when his playmates were wearing both coats and comforters.

Roderick was a generous little fellow, and he often thought what a source of delight it would be to his old playmates of the south if they could have snow in which to play and build forts and caves and down which to coast, and in one of his letters home to his brother he told him that he had just about decided, if it did not cost too much, to send down a train load of snow as a Christmas present to his native place.

One day he and Frank and a half dozen other fellows were fashioning a gigantic snow woman. She was so tall that they had to use a forty foot ladder to finish her head, and they drew the snow up in buckets and a boy straddled her head and slapped the snow on in the proper place.

"We have a sculptor down home and he'd just about go crazy if he had a lot of snow to make his statues out of," said Roderick. "How much snow do you suppose it would take if I shipped some home? How many cars full?"

"Why, I guess it would take a whole train load—say fifty cars," answered

Frank. He was just about to add that it would all melt and turn to water long before it got south, but a mischievous thought stopped him. "Say, fellers," said he, winking at his companions, "Rod wants to send some snow down south. How much would it take, fifty car loads?"

Rawson Mawson thought it would take all of fifty, but Will Bill thought forty-five would do it.

"Well, if the governor sends me enough next week, I'm going to ship some," said Roderick.

He went into the house just then after something and the boys exploded with mirth. The idea of sending snow to the south and expecting it to stay was delightful.

"His father has oceans of money," said Will Bill. "Say we don't tell him that snow melts and then wait until his folks write up and ask him what he means by sending a lot of damp cars down there with nothing in 'em. Of course the water'll all run out."



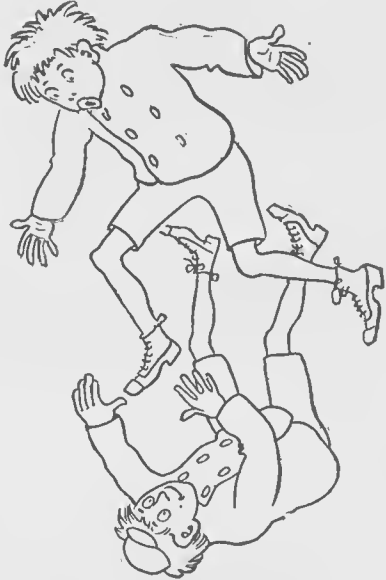
To be hit in the eye by a snowball, hurt.

he had learned all the uses of snow, he wasn't behind any of the boys in applying his knowledge. To be hit in the eye by a snowball of his propelling hurt just

This somewhat mean scheme appealed to all the boys who did not see its mean side, and so when Rod came out again they told him he could count on their aid.

So he wrote to his brother: "Dear Frederick, I have decided to send down to Tuscapoosa (this was the name of the town in which he lived) a train load of the beautiful thing called snow of which I wrote in my last, so that you will receive it by Christmas. You have no idea how nice it is and you will find you never knew what fun was before. I enclose instructions how to make a sled and I am sure that Jefferson Calhoun will be able to make them easily. Fancy getting on one at the top of a hill and just gliding by your own weight to the bottom! And you can have bully fights. We played civil war, using balls of the snow for bullets and cannon balls. I was captain of the Confederates and Cousin Frank was captain of the Union men. After my side won three days running, Uncle Thaddeus said it would be a good plan for me to change over to the Union side or we'd be reversing history. He's no end of fun and I like him immensely. I haven't told him about my idea of shipping snow, as I'm afraid he'd think it was going to be too expensive. They have no idea how

rich father is. Next week I expect to get the snow off. When you receive it, have the men distribute it as evenly as possible or else the sled runners will sink into it and you won't make as much speed. Be careful not to throw the snow balls too hard, for they can hurt like sixty. You can spread a little of the snow on the sidewalk and then run and slide on it the way we used to on our ball room floor, only after it has been smoothed down a little you can go twenty or thirty



Will tumbled him into a drift.

feet. And I bet you'll tumble over when you first try it on. I did and I was at the head of about ten of the fellows and the way they all piled on me was a caution. No more now until I write to tell you that I have shipped it." P. S.—You'll have the merriest Christmas you ever heard of.

Frank Parsons and Will Bill managed the affair and they bribed the train hands not to tell Rod that the snow would melt. The day before he shipped it there was a big fall which made the work of loading much easier. Roderick and all the boys helped the workmen and by nightfall there were fifty cars full of nice, clean, packed down snow.

And then Rod decided to go with the train. "I want to see the fun myself," he said. "I'll come back again in a week or two, after the Christmas holidays." The boys were sorry to have him go and several felt like telling him of the trick at the last moment, but they knew the other boys would make it hot for them if they did, so they refrained.

It was bitter cold when the train pulled out of Loudonville, which is the name of the Loudon Hill station. Roderick, well bundled up, climbed into the cab with the engineer and waved a farewell to the boys. "Thanks, awfully, boys, for your help," said he.

The engineer muttered something about its being "really too bad." "What's too bad?" asked Rod, but the engineer said he was talking to the fireman. At the last moment, Frank was seized with remorse and would have blurted out the secret to Roderick, but Will Bill stuffed his handkerchief into his mouth and tumbled him over into a drift and when he picked himself up the train was moving swiftly away.

Now it happened that the terrible cold wave that spread all over the country and did so much damage, was just beginning. You may remember that the orange crop throughout the south was ruined and people saw ice who had never seen it before.

So that instead of losing all the snow when the train entered the south, not a bit of it had melted, even when the train pulled up at the Tuscapoosa platform the day before Christmas. Fortune favors the brave. Rod had become a great favorite on the train through his manly and unaffected ways and the men were glad to see that the trick had not succeeded.

The snow was in patent dumping cars and as the tracks ran alongside of the place where Rod wanted it dumped, it was an easy matter to distribute it, particularly as all the train hands fell to with a will and gave their services to the boy.

The train was met by the mayor and Rod's father and most of the leading men of Tuscapoosa and Roderick was thanked in any number of long speeches.

After the speeches had all been spun, everybody repaired to the coasting grounds, where they found the snow ready for them. Sleds by the wholesale had been made by clever Jefferson Calhoun and old and young, men and women and children united in the new sport of coasting and snowball fighting, while the local sculptor made a beautiful statue of summer out of the snow. It was nightfall before anyone thought of going home. And quite a number forgot to hang up their stockings they were so excited over the fun they would have the next day. Roderick was the happiest boy that ever gave pleasure to others. When he left there was only the town policeman left to prevent any one from taking away the snow that wanted to do so. And while he might have coped with mere men he was helpless when Jack Frost went home at two o'clock in the morning. Jack Frost had been south three days and he was tired of the place. As soon as he had taken his departure the snow began to melt, and by sunrise Christmas morning, the whole town was afloat.



While he gazed in wonder, he was waited on by the mayor.

Rod rose with the sun and looked out of the window. He could not believe his eyes. Where was the statue of summer? Where was any of the snow? While he gazed in wonder, he was waited on by the mayor and asked to explain this new and unpleasant development, but he had no answer ready.

The mayor said that while he was grateful to Roderick for affording the people a lot of amusement, still it was not pleasant to feel that half the cellars were flooded, and on Christmas day, too. It could not have been worse in the rainy season which had just concluded the month before.

Roderick, much chagrined, went to the engineer of the freight train and asked him to explain why the snow had gone and that good man did so in a few words. He said: "Rod, you are the victim of as mean a trick as one boy ever played on another. Only you got the better of them for a time. Snow melts in warm weather and I expected to see it begin to flood the tracks before we left Pittsburg. If it hadn't been for this unheard of cold snap you would never have brought your snow here in good order. As it is you've had your fun and every one in the place has seen and felt snow and you'd better cut an account of the whole proceedings out of the local paper and mail it to the boys up at Loudon Hill. It'll make them feel like thirty cents."

And Roderick did so, and if Frank and Will Bill and all the other boys did not feel like thirty cents (whatever sensation that may be) they deserved to.

"Are you more comfortable since you went to the dentist, Susie?"

"Yes, ma'm, thank you, but I find it rather difficult to domesticate my food."

We have no doubt a wheel  
Was owned by our first sire,  
For, when our parents fell,  
They found they lacked attire.

Tommy—I'm going to begin common fractions to-morrow, mamma. Mother—You shall do nothing of the kind, Tommy. You shall study the very best fractions they have in the school.

Dobson—"I hear that your son is becoming an excellent landscape painter."

Daubly—"He is."

"Does he imitate nature well?"

"Imitate it? By gad, sir, he beats nature! He can put colors into the landscape that nature never dreamt of."

"Mrs. Muldoon," said Mrs. O'Hara, "is it well ye're falin' the day?"

"Yis; very well."

"An' sthrong?"

"Yis; quite sthrong."

"Thin p'raps its able ye'd be to bring back the two washtubs ye borried lasht Monday."

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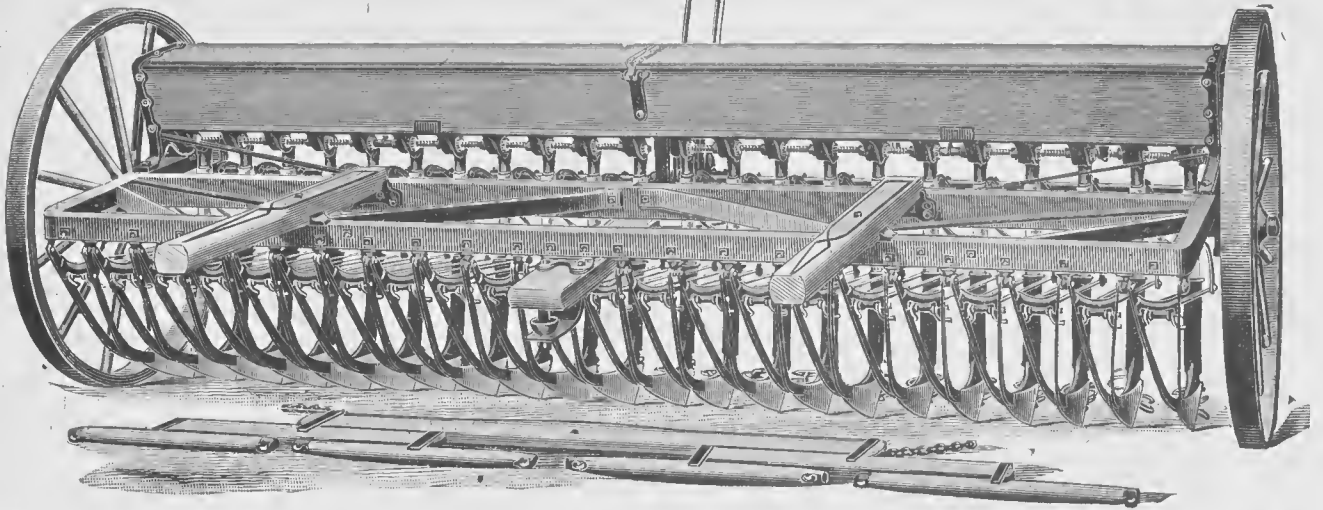
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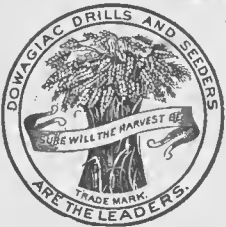
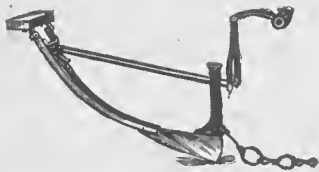
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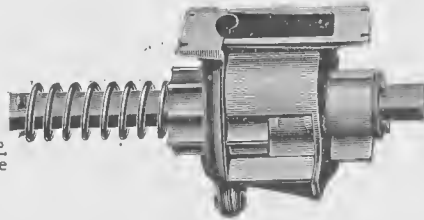


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## Tom Teller's Klondike.

Amanda Teller was scrubbing the back steps vigorously when her husband came out of the field for a drink of water. He walked with a lifeless, ambitionless step. Amanda's movements were quick, and her keen, black eyes shone with unusual fire.

"What do you suppose I have just heard?" she asked, turning on her husband. "Sue Smith was just here and she says Dick Morrrows has come back from the Klondike with one hundred thousand dollars in gold. Just think of it!" she exclaimed with rising voice and half angry manner, "think of those Morrrows with one hundred thousand dollars!"

"Well, what of it, Mandy? Don't get so excited over it. If Dick went up there and got it he's a right to it."

"Yes, but how do you suppose it makes me feel to see other folks prosperous and we always at the bottom of the ditch. I wish you'd do something some account like other men. Dick Morrow wanted you to go with him to the Klondike, but you wouldn't."

"But I didn't want to go, Mandy. Dick Morrrows is a venturesome fellow and likes to take chances and run into dangers. But I don't. I'd a sight sooner stay here at home with you and the babies and work on the old farm."

"And live in poverty," snapped Amanda. "Why, Mandy, what's come over you? I hope you ain't jealous of the Morrrows' money."

"I tell you what's come over me, I'm tired to death of the life I lead. I'm tired of working from year to year and have nothing to show for it. I'm tired of eating plain food and wearing cheap clothes and living in an old shell of a house, with nothing pretty about us and scarcely any comforts. I didn't live that way before I was married, and I'm sick and disgusted with such a life."

Amanda made this outburst with flashing eyes and quivering lips. It was a spontaneous discharge of a full heart.

"You knew you were not marrying a rich man when you married me, Mandy," said her husband.

"But I thought I was at least marrying a man. I thought you would do better by me than you have done. Things haven't improved one whit since I came here eight years ago. The old farm your father left you barely paid our way, poor as we have lived. No reasonable man can blame a woman for growing tired of such a life."

Mrs. Teller went into the house in answer to a baby's cry. Her husband got a drink of water and returned to his horses that patiently awaited their easygoing master. They stood with drooping head and lazy air as if they shared his unambitious spirit. The June corn, too, which Tom Teller was cultivating, seemed to lack energy. It was backward in its growth and choked with weeds. Everything about the place had the same spirit, except Amanda.

Tom picked up the lines and the horses started off lazily down the long rows of corn. But Tom's mind was running in a new channel. He was shocked at the way Amanda had talked to him. In his self-satisfaction he felt it was without just cause. He didn't see why Amanda should turn against him because of the Morrrows' streak of fortune. Clearly it was pure envy. He didn't know before his wife had such a spirit. Manlike, he threw the blame of her dissatisfaction on herself, without considering for a moment the charges made against himself.

When Tom came in to dinner Amanda was in her usually serene spirit, but there was an unhappy look on her face. This look only deepened as the days went

by. She did as much work as ever, but the joy had gone out of her work. There seemed nothing to encourage her.

One day towards the last of June a letter came to Amanda Teller from her old home in a distant state. It was from her old parents, who begged a visit from their daughter. They had not seen her since she left them as a bride eight years before. They felt age creeping on and they wanted once more to gather their children with them. They offered to defray every expense if she would only give a few weeks of her time to them.

It seemed to Amanda when she read the letter that the very breath would leave her body. To think of being back once more in the dear old home with parents, brothers and sisters! But on second thoughts so many hindrances seemed to rise in her way. She handed the letter to her husband to read.

"You had better go, Mandy," he said, when he finished reading the letter.

"But how can I, Tom? How would you get along? And who would take care of the milk and make the butter?"

"Oh, I'd have to manage some way to get along. I'd back it same as I used to. As to the milk, I could take it to the Cloverville creamery."

"But you've always said it was too far to go there with the milk."

"I would have to 'til you get back."

And so it was settled. A few days later Tom Teller placed his wife and three babies on the train and saw them pass from his sight.

Tom Teller was not a selfish man as selfishness is generally understood. He loved his wife and babies and was kind and tender with them. He would not have abused them consciously for anything in the world. And yet his easygoing, slack management was the direct cause of his wife's hardships and privations. But it had never occurred to him that there was any help for it whatever. He was going through life, and there are thousands who travel the same road, with his faculties asleep. He lived one day at a time, and an easy day he made of it, too. An ambitionless father had cursed his son with an ambitionless spirit.

Tom's good looks and pleasant, good natured manner had won him a bright, industrious, ambitious wife. But after she was settled in her new home and understood her husband's ways, she felt as if she had a millstone dragging from her neck.

When Tom returned home, after seeing his family off, and entered the house, he was struck by the deep silence. He was so used to the babies' prattle and cries and to hearing his wife's voice. It seemed strange to him to think that every moment they were going farther and farther from him. He went about his work at his usually easy pace. When it was finished and he closed in for the night he found that Amanda had looked well to his comfort. There was a good supply of food cooked, and the house was clean and orderly. The days moved on until the Sabbath came. It seemed to Tom he had never known so quiet and lonesome a day. He didn't know what to do with himself. They lived several miles from the church and the day was stifling hot, which robbed him of all ambition to attend service. So after his morning work was done he went into the house and looked around for something to read. The first thing he saw was his agricultural weekly, still unopened.

There would have been no such weekly visitor to their home had it not been for Mrs. Teller. She knew they wanted help in their farming. But her husband usually read the paper as he did everything else—in a passive, mechanical way.

He little thought he was on the eve of

a discovery which would change the whole course of his life.

As he opened the paper almost the first thing that caught his eye was this title: "A Klondike on your Farm."

Since Dick Morrow's return from the Klondike with his fortune the word Klondike had been on every tongue. So naturally the heading was attractive and Tom proceeded to read the following:

"The discovery of abundance of gold in the regions of Alaska is turning the heads of thousands of American citizens. Men with good opportunities at home are throwing them aside and losing their senses over excited visions of great fortunes to be had simply for the getting. When the truth is, all the gold in Alaska is not worth the human suffering and the loss of life that has already been occasioned in the scramble to get it. Where one man returns with a fortune and unbroken health, there are hundreds who meet with failure and disaster. There are farmers with Klondikes on their own farms who neither know it nor appreciate it. Many of these are ready to chase after a phantom—a yellow will-o-the-wisp that has hurried hundreds to tragic death and thousands to untold sufferings. But the golden opportunity that lies at their own door is wholly neglected. They slop along from year to year and make the barest subsistence for their families, when their incomes might be doubled or trebled did their farming receive the intelligent interest that every successful business demands.

"But they do not make a business of their farming and there is where the trouble lies. Although they are surrounded by conditions that are complicated and full of mystery, they are as blind to them as though they were human moles. They make no study of their soil and the location of their fields to know what crops are adapted to them. They make no study of their animals. Many a farmer could not tell which of his animals are a profit or loss to him. A cow is a cow, a sheep is a sheep and a hog is a hog. Meadows, because they are difficult to get at, exhaust their own fertility and grow three-inch instead of three-foot grass. Orchards run out through neglect, and through neglect new ones are not planted. They are blind to the fact that no other one improvement gives such commercial value to farms as good, well-cared-for orchards. Besides such neglect, the ordinary work is always behind time. Crops are planted late, tilled late and gathered late. But the weeds are never late.

"If the zeal and labor spent by many a man in trying to dig gold out of the Klondike hills were spent on his farm he would not only find a Klondike at home, but would find it with fewer hardships."

Tom Teller read this article through with deep interest. He sat thinking for a few minutes and then read it again. And certainly he had food enough for his thoughts. The fact is Tom had been growing dissatisfied with himself of late. In his solitude new and tender thoughts of his family had come to him. He never knew until now how much his wife and babies were to him. A hundred times Amanda's outburst of that morning, when she told him she was tired and disgusted with the cheap, hard life she was leading and that she had thought that she was at least marrying a man, had crowded itself on his mind. It was dawning on him that he was proving a bitter disappointment to his wife. And now this article had set his method of farming, like a panorama, before him.

Tom got up at last, went outdoors, and began to walk about his farm. He came to his corn field, which was choked to death with grass and weeds.

"That is the result of always being be-

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Presses down stubble and trash and passes over.  
Makes furrows to any desired depth.  
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hind with my work," he confessed honestly.

He walked on to the orchard. The orchard was a plat of about five acres. At the time Tom's father bought the place it was one of the finest orchards in the country and a good source of income on the farm. But not one stroke of care had it received since it fell into the Tellers' hands. Neither had there been one new tree set out. So the orchard had gradually died out until now there was not a dozen bearing trees left. As Tom walked through it and thought of what it was when he was a boy, it seemed monstrous that it should have been allowed to get into its present condition. He had really never given it any serious thoughts before. He could remember the barrels and barrels of apples that had been sold from it. But now—some years they sold a few bushels, and others not any.

Tom walked out to his pasture. A few head of young stock and half a dozen common cows were grazing. The Tellers lived four miles from the creamery. Tom had greatly objected to the task of taking the milk there. It required energy to get up early in the morning and get off with the milk. And that was one commodity of which Tom never had a big stock. So Amanda had made butter for sale in addition to her other work. And as the making of good butter in warm weather is an impossibility without good facilities, they were forced to sell their butter at the store at the merchant's own price and take trade in payment at that.

But in the past few days that Tom had taken his milk to the creamery he found that he made more from his cows and received cash payment. And besides, all the labor of butter-making was removed from the home. He thought of the hard work Amanda had done in making butter.

As Tom leaned over the pasture fence he was undergoing a strange evolution.

Better thoughts came to him than ever before occupied his mind. The Klondike article stayed by him like a goading friend. He thought of Amanda and was filled with a desire to do a better part by her than he had ever done.

While occupied with these reflections he chanced to glance toward the public road which passed his place and he saw a glistening new carriage and a sleek span of horses going by. He knew it was Dick Morrums and his family out riding in their new carriage. The sight seemed to animate his spirits. It turned the vein of his thought for a moment. "Well, men are different," he said. "Dick Morrums found his Klondike up in Alaska, but I shall find mine on the old farm. And I shall find it, too," he repeated with force, bringing his fist down on the fence post by way of emphasis. "This pasture will be filled with better cows, and the milk be taken to the creamery. That old orchard is going to be broken up and a new one set out next spring. My crops are going to have better cultivation, my animals have better care. In fact, we are going to take a new lease of life on this place, and Amanda and the babies shall have the care they deserve."

Tom started toward the home with a new step. The new ambition had quickened every nerve and muscle in his body. He was waking up, thank the Lord! Yes, thank the Lord when any man wakes up from the error of his ways, whether it be the error of an easy-going indifference, intemperance, or any evil that deadens men's sensibilities and ambition.

It was six weeks later when Tom Teller drove out of the yard to go to the station to meet his little family. He was freshly shaved and dressed in his best clothes in honor of the occasion. If ever a man knew how to appreciate the blessings of wife and children, that man was Tom. The lonesomeness had become perfectly

unbearable. It seemed to him the baby's worst cry would be sweetest music. He had put the home in as good order as could be expected of a man. But it was the outdoor changes that were noticeable. He had already begun improvements that would transform the old farm.

"Why, Tom," said Amanda next day, as she was walking about the place with her husband, "I hadn't noticed until this minute that you had plowed up the old orchard. What did you do that for?"

"We are going to set out a new one in the spring," replied Tom. "You see I left a few of the best old trees at this end."

"It seems to me, Tom, that you have done more work since I went away than you have done for five years. Why, it shows whichever way I look."

"I have certainly done more planning," said Tom.

He drew from his pocket a little note "You read that," he said. "That article set me to thinking."

It was the Klondike article. He had cut it from the paper and pasted it in his note book.

"You see," said Tom, when his wife finished reading it, "I am not one of the kind of men to venture off from home, but I have made up my mind to make the very best of the chances I have."

"And that is all I ask of you, Tom," said Amanda.—Nellie Burns in National Stockman.

"Uncle Reuben," inquired a city young lady, spending some holidays with country relatives: "is that chicken by the gate a Brahma?" "No," replied the old farmer, "he's a Leghorn." "Why, certainly, to be sure," exclaimed the city girl. "How stupid of me! I see the horns on his ankles." Beware of appearing to know more than you do.

## Modern Hygiene in Practice.

It is far more wholesome to drink impure river water than to breathe the air of a crowded and unventilated room, and how cleanly people can be content to do so is only explicable on the principle that what the eye does not see the heart does not grieve over, writes Dr. Alfred Schofield in *Leisure Hour*.

Now, we all live in houses, and even if we pass our days out of doors, we have to pass our nights within. This subject is one of painful interest to us all.

The real problem in ventilation is not the size of a room, but how often the air of a room can be changed without draught. Suppose a room is ten feet by ten feet, by ten feet high, and there is a narrow window in it two feet wide, and a fireplace. The room will be sufficiently ventilated if the window is open one inch for every person in the room, the foul air finding a ready exit up the chimney.

The practical person asks, "Is there any way in which I can find out whether the air does contain the right amount of carbonic acid, and no more?" Certainly there is. To test the air of a room, you bring into it a half-pint bottle full of water. You empty this water out in the room, when the bottle immediately fills with the air of the room. You then put into the bottle one tablespoonful (half an ounce) of pure lime-water, cork and shake it. If it turns milky in a few minutes, the ventilation is insufficient.

In the day the problem is easily solved, because the air of a room can be changed without draught three times an hour. The difficulty is in the evenings and nights, and in winter.

It has been calculated that in a fair-sized room, hermetically sealed, a man might exist for one hour. If he had a candle, this time would be reduced to three-quarters of an hour; if a lamp, to half an hour; while, if he had two good gas-burners and wanted to be really cheerful, he would live just five minutes. All this shows that ventilation should always be increased when lights are burning in a room, and not decreased.

At night, in bedrooms, the fresh air is a necessity of life. It is folly to rail at "night air" as if it were a mysterious poison. As a matter of fact, there is no air at night but night air, and it happens to be always far purer than day air—at any rate, in towns and cities. It should be admitted without draught. There can be no doubt that, though impure air may be a slow poison, it is a sure one. It lowers the whole tone of the system, and lays the unsuspected foundation for numerous and fatal diseases.

## How Inventions Provide Work.

Figures recently collected show in a very striking manner how new inventions benefit wage-earners by providing employment in new lines of industry. In 1880 there were no electric street-cars. Less than 12,000 men operated the 2,050 miles of street car lines then in existence. There are now over 13,000 miles of electric lines, employing 160,000 men. In 1870 the census reported only 154 shorthand writers in the United States. Owing to the invention of the typewriter, there are now about 35,000 stenographers and typewriters, of whom 21,000 are women. Inventions, as a rule, are great blessings.

Wife—"Say what you please, there's no reason why a woman can't become just as good a lawyer as a man."

He—"I can't agree with you, my dear. A woman is too fond of giving her opinion without pay."

## The Sad Little Boy.

I have eeventeen doll bables and a cat.  
I've a dozen and a half of colored blocke.  
I've a pair of tennie racquets and a bat.  
I've an elephant that wears a pair of socks.  
I've a hank that has a pretty key and locks.  
I've a lot of booke of story and of fable.  
But alas! a cruel fate my wishee mocks!  
I cannot have the things on mamma's table.  
On that table are long pins for mamma's hat,  
And heelde them etande the lovellest of clocks.  
There's a lot of huterfiles, a golder gnat,  
That my mamma wears to faeten up her frocke.  
On the floor I have a farm with horse and ox,  
With a farmer and a hoy we all call Ahel.  
But alas! a cruel fate my wishes mocks!  
I cannot have the thinge on mamma's table.  
My dear daddy brought me home a kitten fat,  
And of sheep I have at least a dozen flocke.  
Uucle Jimmie sent me up a woven mat  
That the little Injun children made of shooke.  
I have tiny boats tied fast to tiny docks.  
I've a fair-haired baby eister christened Mahel.  
But alas! a cruel fate my wishes mocks!  
I cannot have the things on mamma's table.

—Harper's Bazar.

## Is Woman Ashamed of Her Age?

It is a curious thing that so many women dislike telling their ages. Why is this? A man seldom hesitates to tell his age if the question comes up, or there is reason for telling it. But a woman will rarely tell her age even to the census taker, says Rose Seelye-Miller, in *National Stockman*. It seems strange that this should be so. When a girl is a young girl, she is generally ready enough to tell the number of her years, but as time goes on and she loses her "sweet sixteen-ness" she grows chary of telling just how many years have passed since she was sixteen. Girls are generally proud to tell their ages while they are still very young women; they delight in appearing a little older than they really are, they like to don long dresses, and with them coquetish airs and graces and to have people imagine them a little older than they really are. This, however, soon changes and the girl who in her teens has proudly stated the exact facts concerning her age, will at her twenty-fifth birthday evade the fact and seldom allow it to be known.

Now it is reasonable to believe that the fully matured girl or woman is more attractive than the "bread and butter" miss, however pretty she may be. A woman of forty is at her best and most attractive age, if she has made the most of her life, and she is not the wrinkled and pinched-visaged being we have been wont to regard her. Neither has she become according to the old type, recorded in the accepted adage, "fair, fat and forty." She has full command of herself. She does not allow adipose to accumulate to too great an extent, and yet there is plumpness enough to ward off the dreaded wrinkles. And yet after all wrinkles and lines are to the face what delicate shadings are to the picture, they tell the story better than any mere impressionist's strokes. We need not then shrink from wrinkles in a just measure. They give expression to the face. One may keep the skin unwrinkled and without a line perhaps by keeping it always in repose, like a putty doll's or that of a bisque figure, but what we really admire in our friends is their varying expressions rather than their absolute repose of feature, for where there are real feelings, deep emotions, serious and sincere thoughts, the face must reflect them in some form or manner. We do not want always to be in a state of deep emotion. We want our peaceful days and restful nights, but we do not want to

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be so devoid of human nature and so hardened to others' feelings that we can always go on the "even tenor of our way" with no care or thought or sympathy with our fellow beings. It is the woman who can sympathize who is loved and sought by old and young alike, of both sexes. Even men, for whom so many suppose women dress and dream, like a real woman much better than a putty doll.

The woman who has no time for anything save making and keeping herself personally beautiful is a poor specimen of womanhood. She is supremely selfish, she may not be disturbed from her rest because she must preserve her beauty, she may not be free in any way or she may mar the perfect complexion, the waxen whiteness of her hands, or the complete composure of her features. The woman who makes mere physical beauty her standard and aim in life fails most signally in accomplishing her aim, because she seeks from cosmetics, Delsarte, etc., to keep only the outward woman beautiful. She forgets the higher beauty, that beauty of face that comes from high thinking, from unselfish doing, from true living.

Let woman make the most of herself in all right ways. There is no harm in cosmetics, providing they are harmless, as the greater part of them are, in these enlightened days; there is no harm in trying to keep one's self at the best physical standpoint—indeed this is always a most desirable thing—but at the same time there is something above and beyond cosmetics, fine gowns and Delsarte. There is an infinite world of womanly personality to be cultivated an infinite sea of human life to be comprehended and helped; an infinite number of womanly duties for the womanly woman to perform, and the just and generous performance of these duties will give her a grace and a beauty of character and soul that can not fail to be reflected on her face and physical being.

There is no Fountain of Youth so effective as unselfishness. We forget self and live for others; we do not worry about the wrinkles on our faces or the grey hair about our temples, and in this way we really keep ourselves young while the calendar years would proclaim us ageing.

I doubt if the true woman ever grows old. There is no such thing as real age to the woman who lives her truest life. She may wrinkle in time, and in time grow grey, but her heart will ever be a well-spring of youth, and one in which all who know her may trust and rest.

Beauty is more than "skin deep," according to the old saying; it is as deep as a woman's heart and life—and these have

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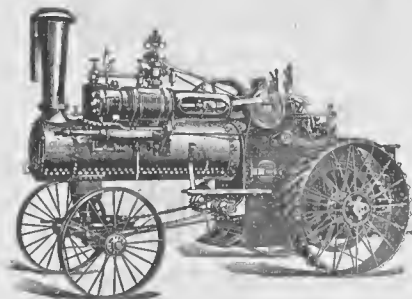
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J. I. Case T. M. Co., Racine, Wis.

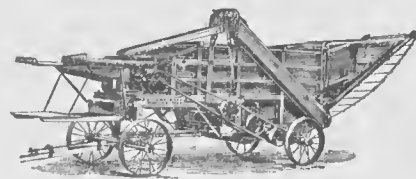
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**D. B. MACLEOD, GENERAL AGENT, Winnipeg, Man.**

infinite depths in the womanly woman.

We may never taboo the worth of outward appearance; we may cultivate what personal charms we have by the use of cosmetics and graceful gowning, but after all to be beautiful we must possess something vastly above and beyond these things.

Women are realizing these things more and more and the coming woman will not be afraid to tell the number of her years, she will not worry herself sick over a lack of pigment on her once well-colored tresses. She will have something better in place of these things.

### A Love of Nature.

Dr. M. L. Holbrook gives the following excellent advice as to the education of children: "So far as possible, a love of Nature should be early and continuously inculcated. Nature is, in a physical sense, the father and mother of us all, and a child that grows up to maturity with a genuine love of rocks and trees, flowers and insects, animals and plants, storms and sunshine, cold and heat, fresh air or the ocean wave, of every varying landscape and mood of Nature, and all the activities around us, stands not only a better chance of possessing a healthy nervous system, but of maintaining it during life, than if the opposite has been the case. I am not at all in sympathy with any system of education which takes children far away from Nature. Nature is a book, a great library of books, whose authorship is the Infinite. Our little works, our libraries, vast and valuable as they are, cannot be compared with it. They are poor transcripts at best of the thoughts of half-developed human beings."

### In Favor of the Moon.

A colored debating society in Kentucky had this weighty subject under discussion the other evening: "Which is the most useful, the sun or the moon?" After considerable wrangling on both sides, during which the disputants waxed warm and eloquent, the judge, an old negro, promptly decided that the moon was the more useful, as "it shined at night when the people needed light, while the sun, he only shined in the daytime, when they could do without it."

### The Cow's Leg.

The teacher of a school in one of the rural districts of Georgia assigned each pupil the task of writing an original story. On the day when the stories were read, a bright little towhead arose and began as follows:

"On the green slope of a mountain stood a first-class Jersey cow, with three legs."

"That won't do," interrupted the teacher. "You are one leg short."

"No, I ain't," replied the future author. "You don't wait to get my plot, which is that a railroad train cut off one leg, and the owner of the cow got \$3,000 damages, an' moved his whole family to Paris in time for the exposition, where the girls will be married to rich Frenchmen, and die happy ever afterward."

### Health Alphabet.

A—s soon as you are up, shake blanket and sheet;  
B—etter be without shoes than sit with wet feet;  
C—hildren, if healthy, are active, not still;  
D—amp beds and damp clothes will both make you ill;  
E—at slowly, and always chew your food well;  
F—reshen the air in the house where you dwell;  
G—arments must never be made too tight;  
H—omes should be healthy, airy and light,  
I—f you wish to be well, as you do, I've no doubt,  
J—ust open the windows before you go out;  
K—eep your rooms always tidy and clean;  
L—et dust on the furniture never be seen;  
M—uch illness is caused by the want of pure air;  
N—ow to open your windows be ever your care;  
O—ld rugs and old rubbish should never be kept;  
P—eople should see that their floors are well swept;  
Q—uick movements in children are healthy and right;  
R—emember, the young cannot thrive without light;  
S—ee that the cistern is clean to the brim;  
T—ake care that your dress is all tidy and trim;

U—se your nose to find if there be a bad drain;

V—ery sad are the fevers that come from its train;

W—alk as much as you can without feeling fatigue;

X—ercises could walk many a league;

Y—our health is your wealth, which your wisdom must keep;

Z—al will help a good cause, and the good you will reap.

### The Piano's Needs.

Never, if it can be prevented, keep a piano in damp atmosphere, as serious damage may be done to the delicate mechanism, and rust will accumulate on the strings and other metal portions, thereby causing a dull and non-sonorous tone.

Do not load the top of the instrument with bric-a-brac, nor place the back too near the wall; both these faults result in a diminished and weakened tone.

Never light a big fire in a room where a piano is placed, as the sudden heat generated drives the surface damp inwards, thereby causing many annoyances, such as the sticking of notes, a far better plan is to heat the room very gradually.

It is a curious fact that one rarely finds a piano up to standard pitch, except it be a new one. This is to be regretted, because a new piano is never so sweet and sonorous, if it is allowed to get below the standard pitch, as it would be if kept up to it from the first.

One of the reasons of this is that people are generally very careless about having their instruments looked to, and very often the piano is allowed to get so far "out" that it becomes a musical impossibility to distinguish anything harmonious in its sound; then, and not till then, they send for the tuner. It isn't likely that any piano will improve with this neglect, which, combined with other kinds of carelessness, such as damp atmosphere, etc., will result in reducing the piano to a mere box of strings in comparison with what it once was.

There is nothing more pleasing to a musician than to have an immediate, sonorous, and clear response to his touch, which every piano ought to produce; providing, in the first place, it is a good one; and secondly, it is kept in good condition. The expense may be slightly more, but it will be repaid in the increased satisfaction of those who play upon the instrument.